

FOR 35 YEARS... THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER-HERO!!

ACTION

DC
COMICS

IN THIS ISSUE: ACTION PLUS WITH:

**GREEN
ARROW**

AND

**THE HUMAN
TARGET!**

20c



ACTION COMICS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
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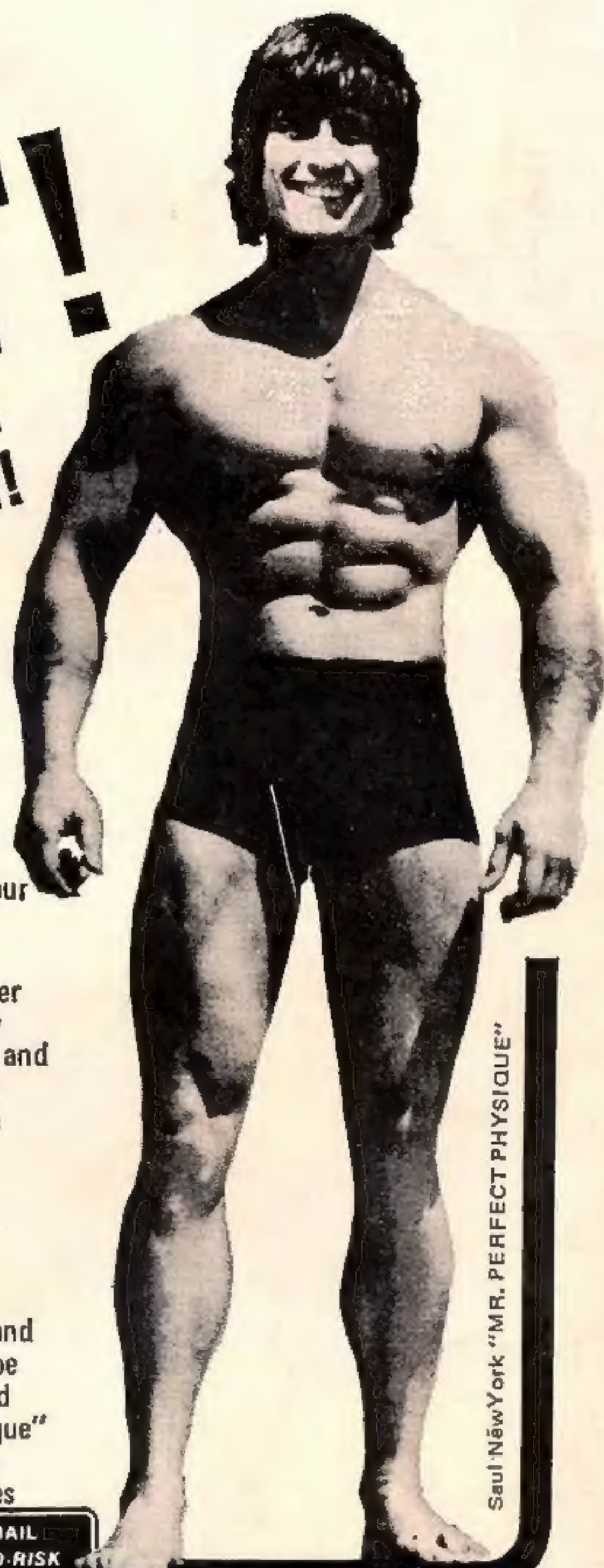
THIS IS A JOB FOR...

SUPERMAN!



GAIN WEIGHT!

Be Muscular and Admired!!



Saul New York "MR. PERFECT PHYSIQUE"

Yes, you too can have a body like "Mr. Perfect Physique" Saul New York (pictured above). He followed our HERCULES II Muscle Building Course for just a few short weeks and gained 3" on each arm, 4" on his chest and beefed up his legs, back and stomach muscles until he reached his present Super Build — a body good enough to win him the World's coveted "Mr. Perfect Physique" title.

Yes, our Muscle Building Secrets contained in HERCULES II can transform your present body into the kind of handsome rippling muscularity that other guys respect and all girls 'flip' over.

It doesn't matter if you own the skinniest, flabbiest body in the world - whether you are tall or short young or not so young, you really can muscle up instantly by using our easy to follow step-by-step HERCULES II plan. It's entirely safe and so easy to do next to other courses. It will amaze you! There are no gimmicks, gadgets or costly weights to buy. Just simple, yet terrifyingly effective steps to muscledom. It only takes a few minutes a day of your time.

Just how big you build your body is entirely up to you. 10, 20, 30 pounds of solid muscle! You can do it! In fact any guy in normal health can do it.

JUST IMAGINE — IN A FEW SHORT WEEKS FROM NOW YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FLEX THOSE BULGING BICEPS AND YOUR FRIENDS WILL GASP IN ASTONISHMENT. Pick up a 6 inch spike, bend it effortlessly and hand it to your buddy. Invite him to straighten it. Knowing average guys, he won't be able to budge it, however red-faced he gets trying. Yes! Our New secret method can change your whole life. Why not follow in the steps of "Mr. Perfect Physique" Remember the sooner you send the order form at the bottom of this page, the sooner you will be helping yourself to a lion's share of rippling, healthy muscles bursting with power and explosive energy.

MAIL
NO-RISK
COUPON

WHAT OTHERS SAY. . .

"Hercules II has given me a new body - I never realised how easy it was to gain weight." T. Sandson

"In 3 weeks I have put 1½" on my arms, 3½" on my chest and lost flab from my waist. My stomach muscles can now take any punch" S. Johnston

"I have gained 22 pounds of muscle in 30 days — I have put 4" on my arms — A million thanks to your New Hercules II program." Bill Canning

"I was a skinny weakling — I just can't describe how much your course has done for me. The results have been amazing" P.G. Roberts

"I feel great — Look 100% better. Can lift my father above my head" J. Scott

Act Now! By making this first He-Man decision — Simply fill out the coupon and we will rush you within hours the exact same Muscle Building information we sent to Saul New York just a short time ago.

Put an end to your skinny body now! Send just 25¢ coin for our Free Plan showing how you can get started with HERCULES II. You have nothing to lose but your weakness!

The First Step to a stronger more muscular YOU starts here!!

ABSOLUTELY FREE! MUSCLE-BUILDING INFORMATION

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Sirs
Enclosed 25¢ coin to cover handling and mailing charges.
Rush me the exact same FREE information you sent Saul New York, detailing how I can get an INSTANT SUPER-BUILD with HERCULES II Muscle Building plan. I am under no further obligation in any way.

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BACK
GUARANTEE

GUARANTEED

We positively guarantee a handsome muscular build or full refund.

Bodybuilding Center.

ANOTHER ACTION-PACKED SAGA OF SUPERMAN

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

ART: CURT SWAN and MURPHY ANDERSON
STORY: CARY BATES
EDITING: JULIE SCHWARTZ

THROUGH THE SKY THEY STREAKED, THEIR SPEED MAKING THEM SIZZLE FROM AIR-FRICTION...

DEAD AHEAD, MIKE--COMING AT US SO **FAST**, RADAR CAN BARELY TRACK THEM!

WHAT ARE THEY!?

LOOKS LIKE--**ROCKS!**



BUT NO ORDINARY ROCKS ARE **THESE!** SWEEPED THROUGH THE AIR BY A MYSTERIOUS FORCE--NOT EVEN A **JUMBO-JET** CAN SURVIVE IN THEIR SEARING PATH! FOLLOW THEM ON THEIR FANTASTIC FLIGHT AND YOU'LL MEET THE...

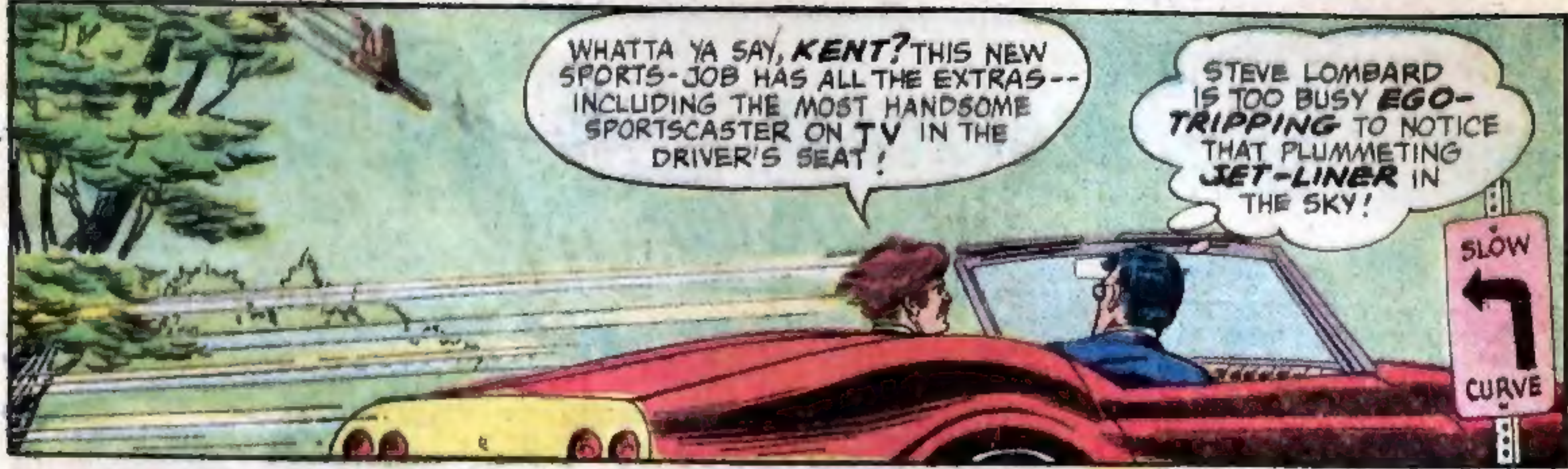
"MASTER OF THE MOON ROCKS!"

nomscans

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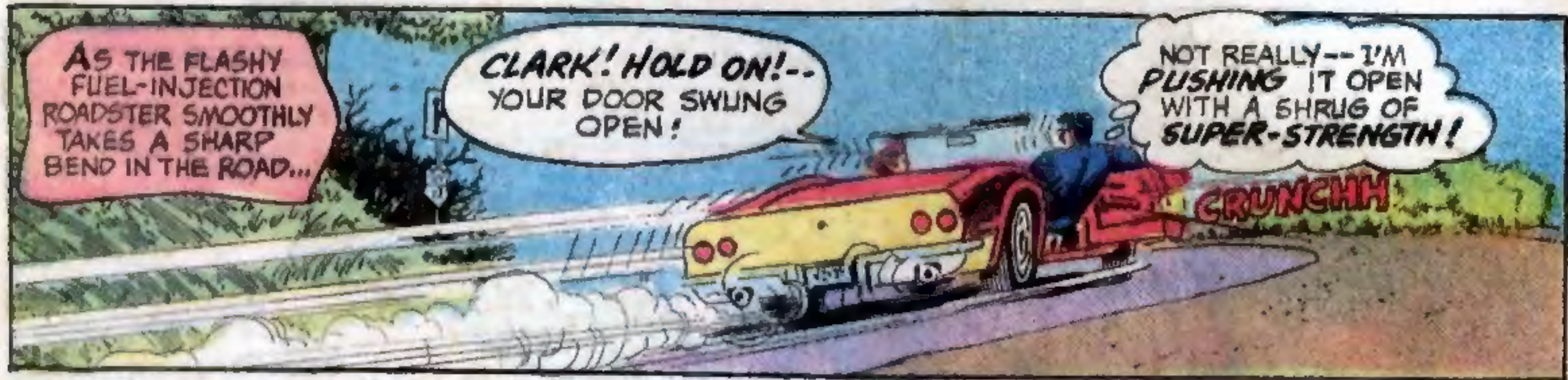
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WHATTA YA SAY, **KENT**? THIS NEW SPORTS-JOB HAS ALL THE EXTRAS-- INCLUDING THE MOST HANDSOME SPORTSCASTER ON TV IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT!

STEVE LOMBARD IS TOO BUSY **EGO-TRIPPING** TO NOTICE THAT PLUMMETING **JET-LINER** IN THE SKY!



AS THE FLASHY FUEL-INJECTION ROADSTER SMOOTHLY TAKES A SHARP BEND IN THE ROAD...

CLARK! HOLD ON!-- YOUR DOOR SWUNG OPEN!

NOT REALLY-- I'M **PUSHING** IT OPEN WITH A SHRUG OF **SUPER-STRENGTH!**

CRUNCHH

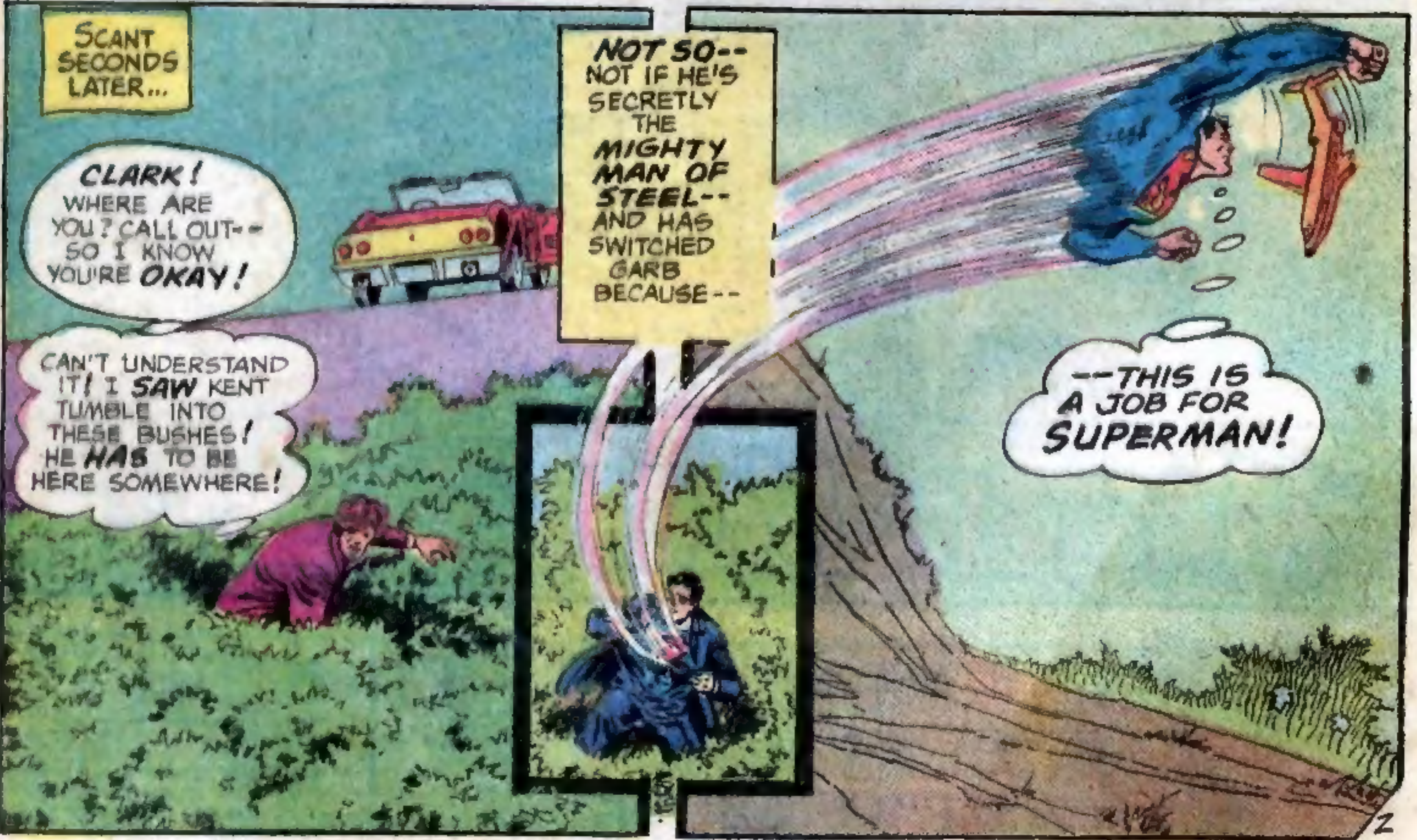


HOPE CLARK'S NOT HURT BAD! THE **LATCH** ON HIS DOOR MUST'VE BEEN **FAULTY!**

SCREEEEEEEE

JUST WHAT I WANTED STEVE TO THINK!

NOW TO ROLL OFF THE ROAD AND INTO THE COVER OF THESE **BUSHES!**



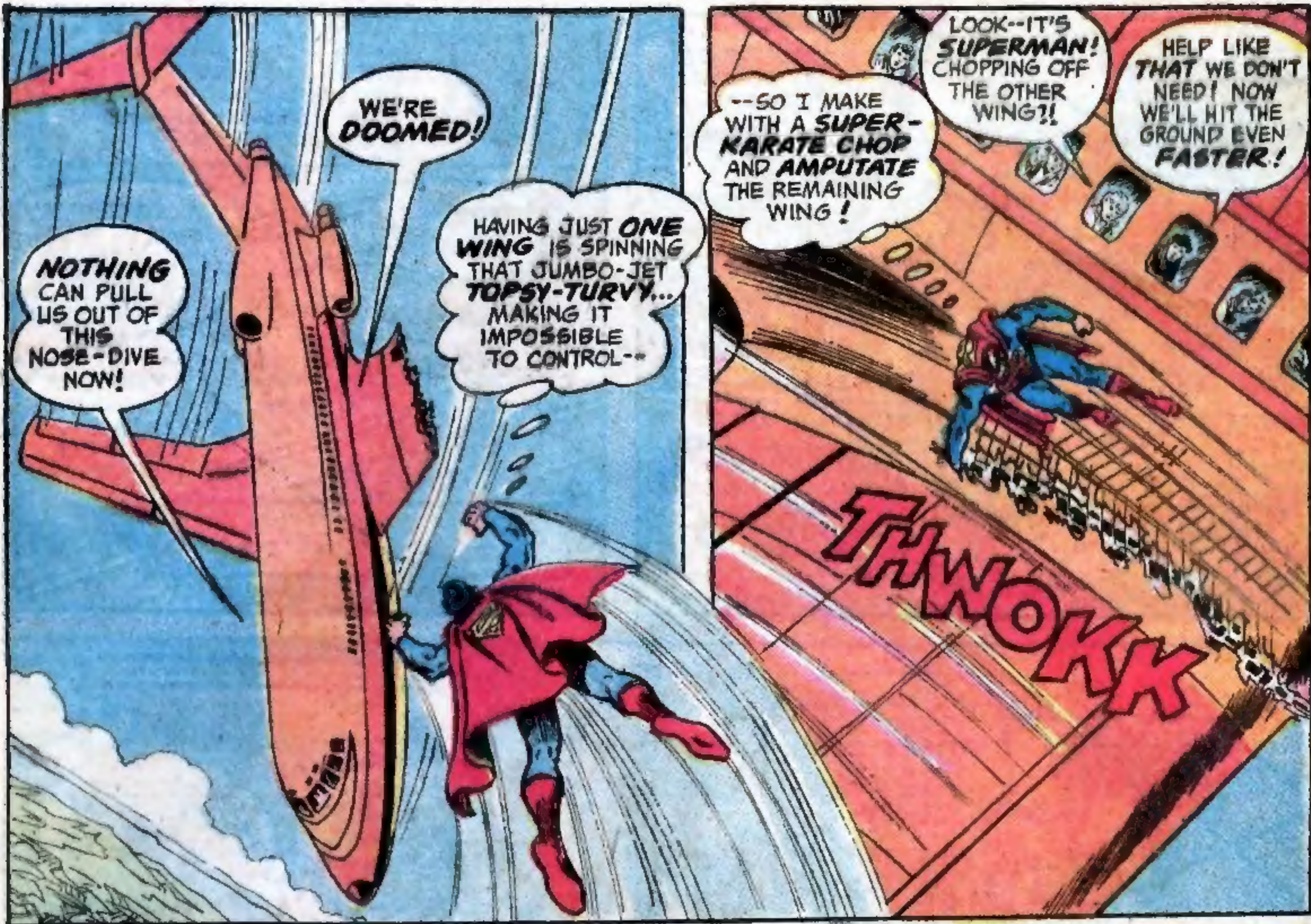
SCANT SECONDS LATER...

CLARK! WHERE ARE YOU? CALL OUT-- SO I KNOW YOU'RE **OKAY!**

CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT! I **SAW** KENT TUMBLE INTO THESE BUSHES! HE **HAS** TO BE HERE SOMEWHERE!

NOT SO-- NOT IF HE'S SECRETLY THE **MIGHTY MAN OF STEEL--** AND HAS SWITCHED GARB BECAUSE--

--THIS IS A JOB FOR **SUPERMAN!**



NOTHING
CAN PULL
US OUT OF
THIS
NOSE-DIVE
NOW!

WE'RE
DOOMED!

HAVING JUST **ONE**
WING IS SPINNING
THAT JUMBO-JET
TOPSY-TURVY...
MAKING IT
IMPOSSIBLE
TO CONTROL--

--SO I MAKE
WITH A **SUPER-**
KARATE CHOP
AND **AMPUTATE**
THE REMAINING
WING!

LOOK--IT'S
SUPERMAN!
CHOPPING OFF
THE OTHER
WING?!

HELP LIKE
THAT WE DON'T
NEED! NOW
WE'LL HIT THE
GROUND EVEN
FASTER!

THWOKK

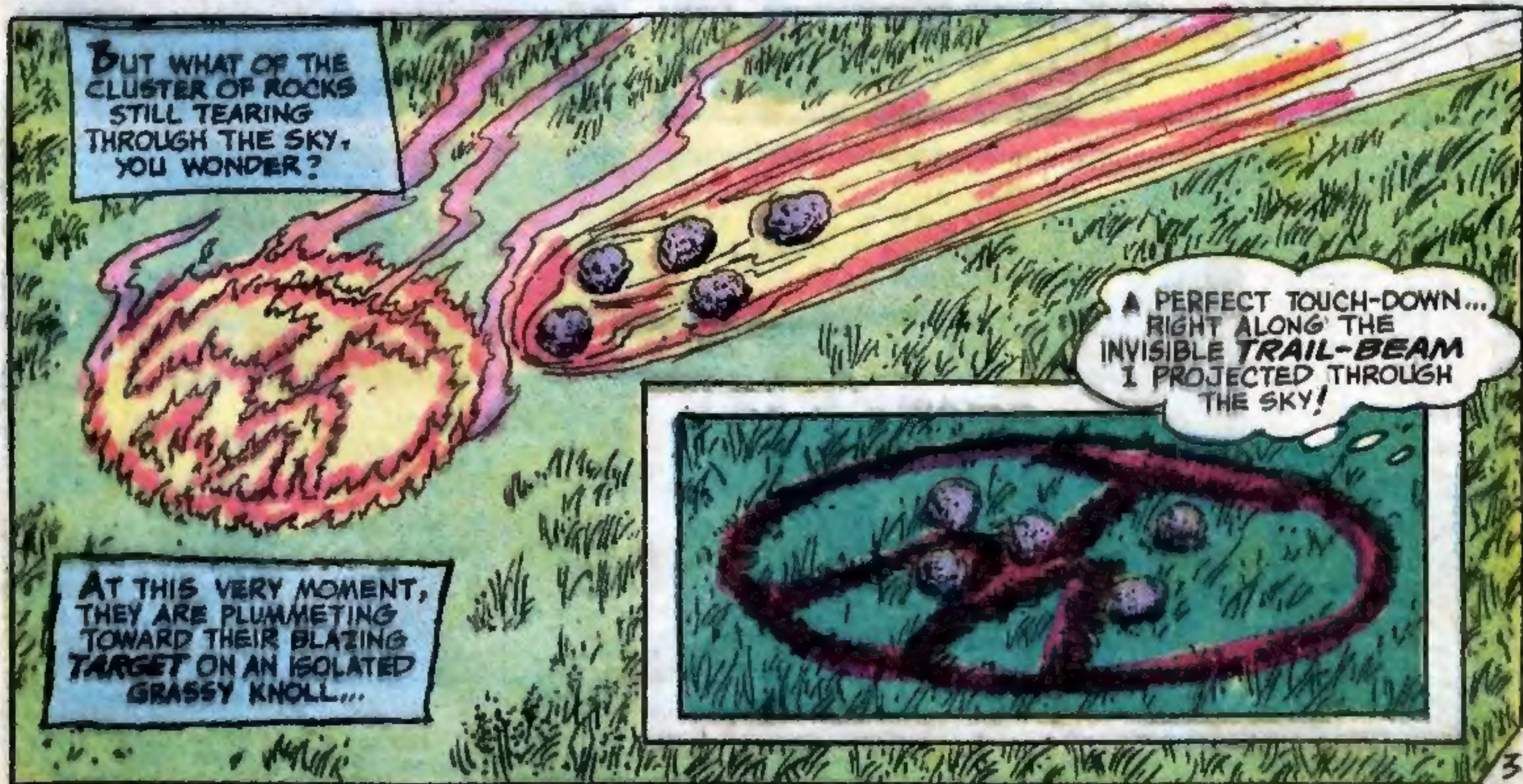


BUT THEN--TO
THE RELIEVED
SIGNS OF 324
PASSENGERS...

HEY! THAT'S SMART THINKING
ON **SUPERMAN'S** PART! NOW
THE JET IS **STABILIZED--**
LIKE A **MISSILE!**

WE'RE
SAVED!

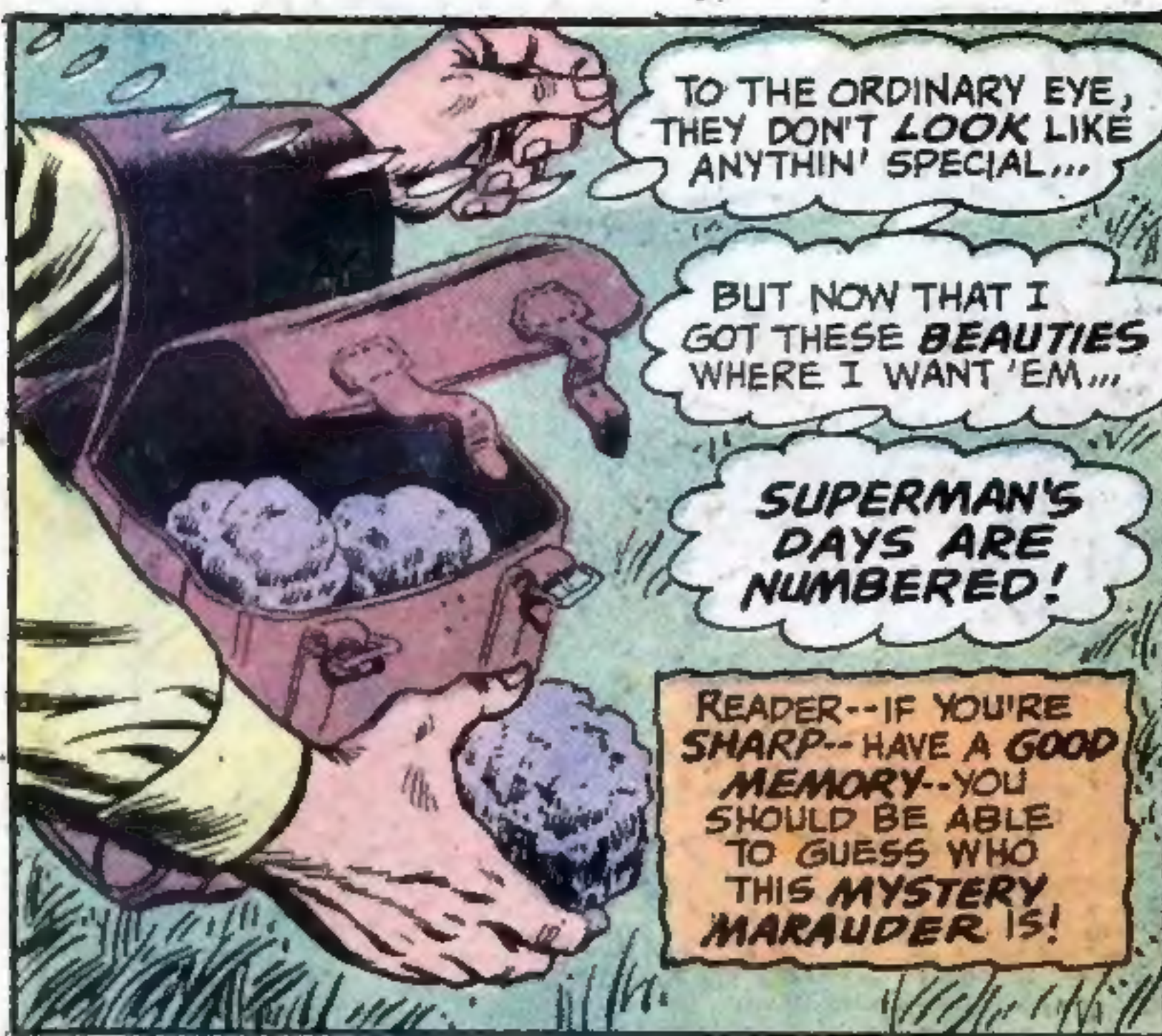
HOORAY
FOR
SUPERMAN!



BUT WHAT OF THE
CLUSTER OF ROCKS
STILL TEARING
THROUGH THE SKY,
YOU WONDER?

AT THIS VERY MOMENT,
THEY ARE PLUMMETING
TOWARD THEIR BLAZING
TARGET ON AN ISOLATED
GRASSY KNOLL...

A PERFECT TOUCH-DOWN...
RIGHT ALONG THE
INVISIBLE **TRAIL-BEAM**
I PROJECTED THROUGH
THE SKY!

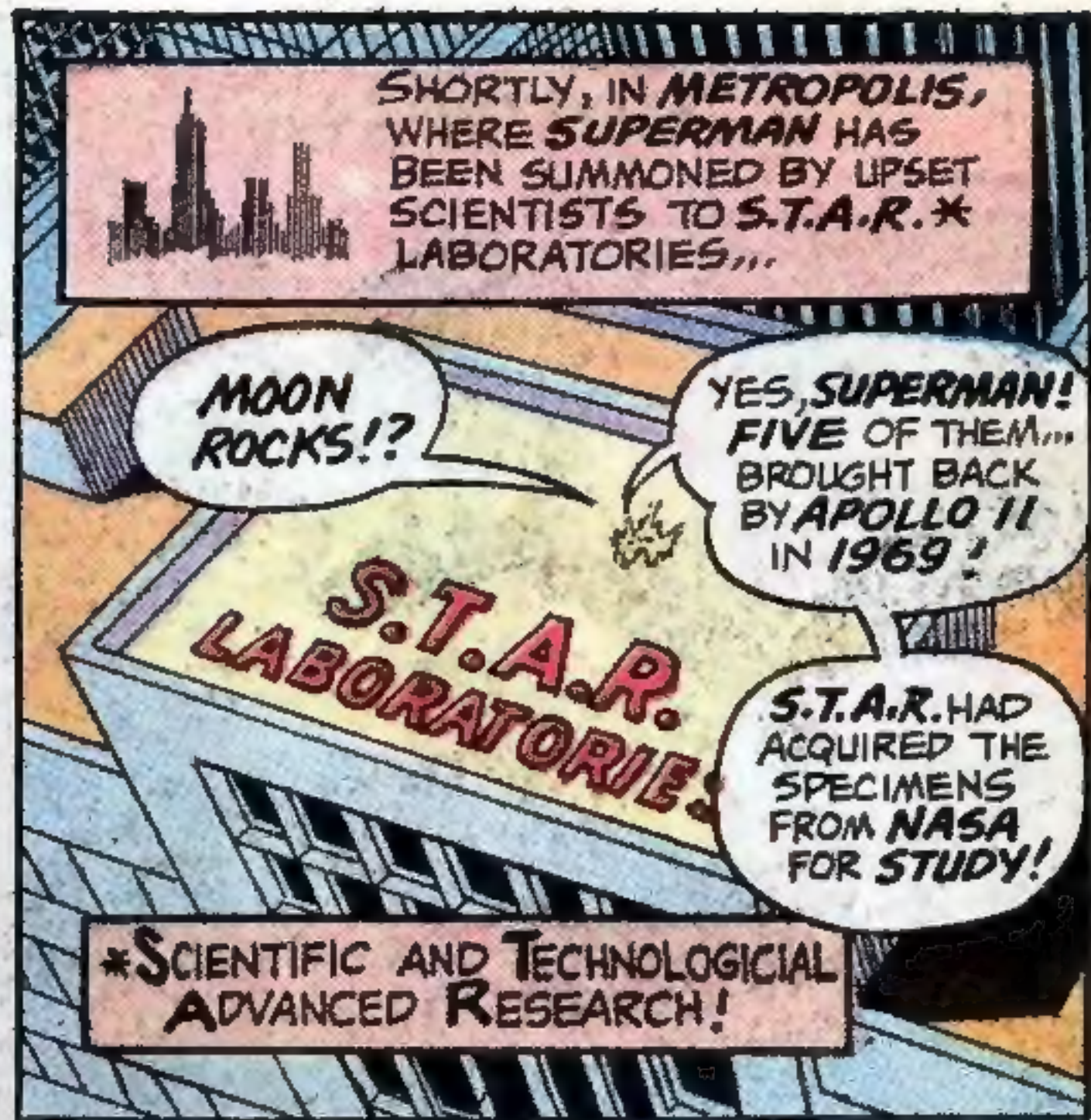


TO THE ORDINARY EYE,
THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE
ANYTHIN' SPECIAL...

BUT NOW THAT I
GOT THESE **BEAUTIES**
WHERE I WANT 'EM...

**SUPERMAN'S
DAYS ARE
NUMBERED!**

READER--IF YOU'RE
SHARP-- HAVE A **GOOD
MEMORY--** YOU
SHOULD BE ABLE
TO GUESS WHO
THIS **MYSTERY
MARAUDE** IS!



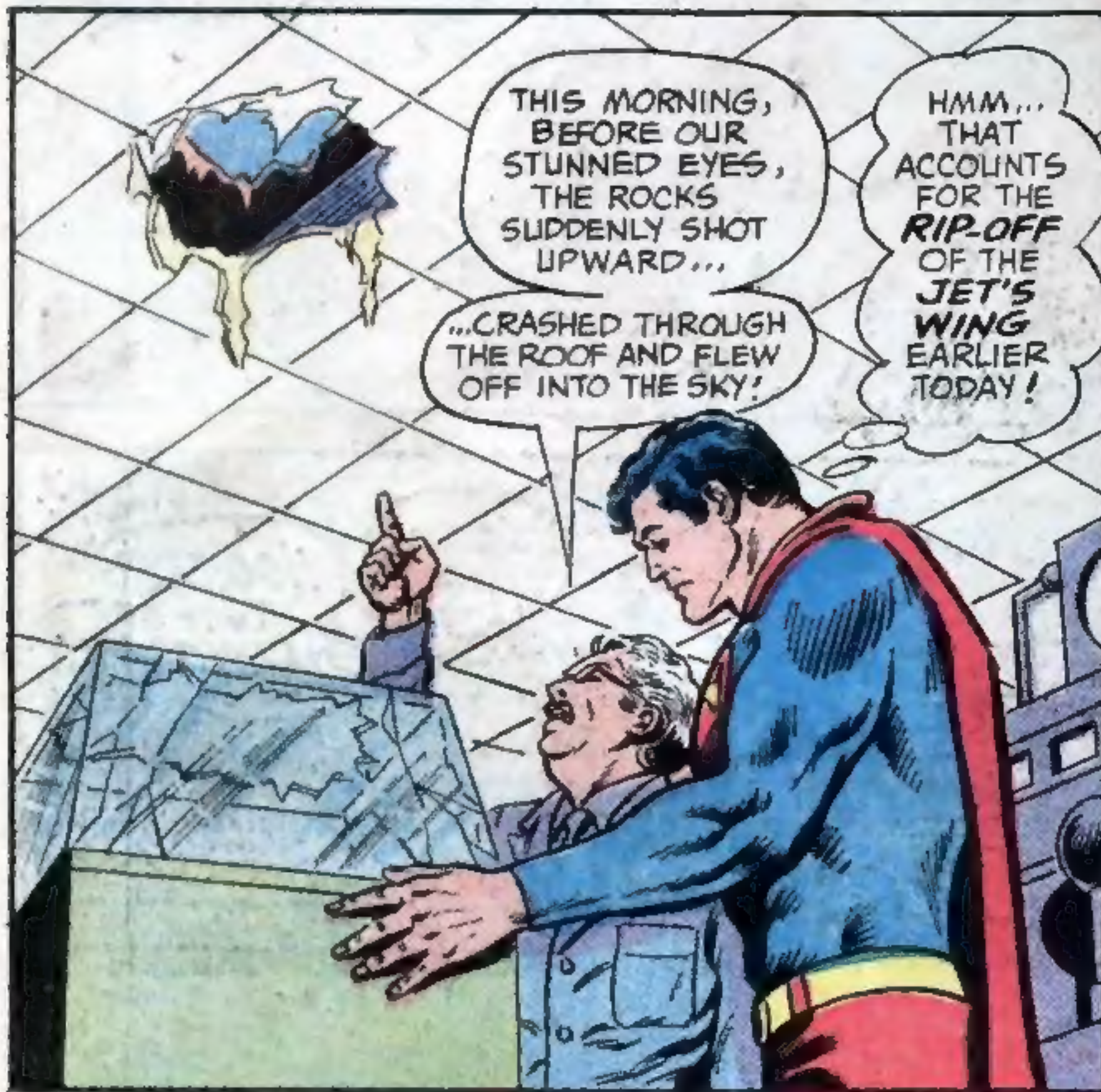
SHORTLY, IN **METROPOLIS**,
WHERE **SUPERMAN** HAS
BEEN SUMMONED BY UPSET
SCIENTISTS TO **S.T.A.R.***
LABORATORIES...

**MOON
ROCKS!?**

YES, **SUPERMAN!**
FIVE OF THEM...
BROUGHT BACK
BY **APOLLO 11**
IN 1969!

S.T.A.R. HAD
ACQUIRED THE
SPECIMENS
FROM **NASA**
FOR **STUDY!**

***SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL
ADVANCED RESEARCH!**



THIS MORNING,
BEFORE OUR
STUNNED EYES,
THE ROCKS
SUDDENLY SHOT
UPWARD...

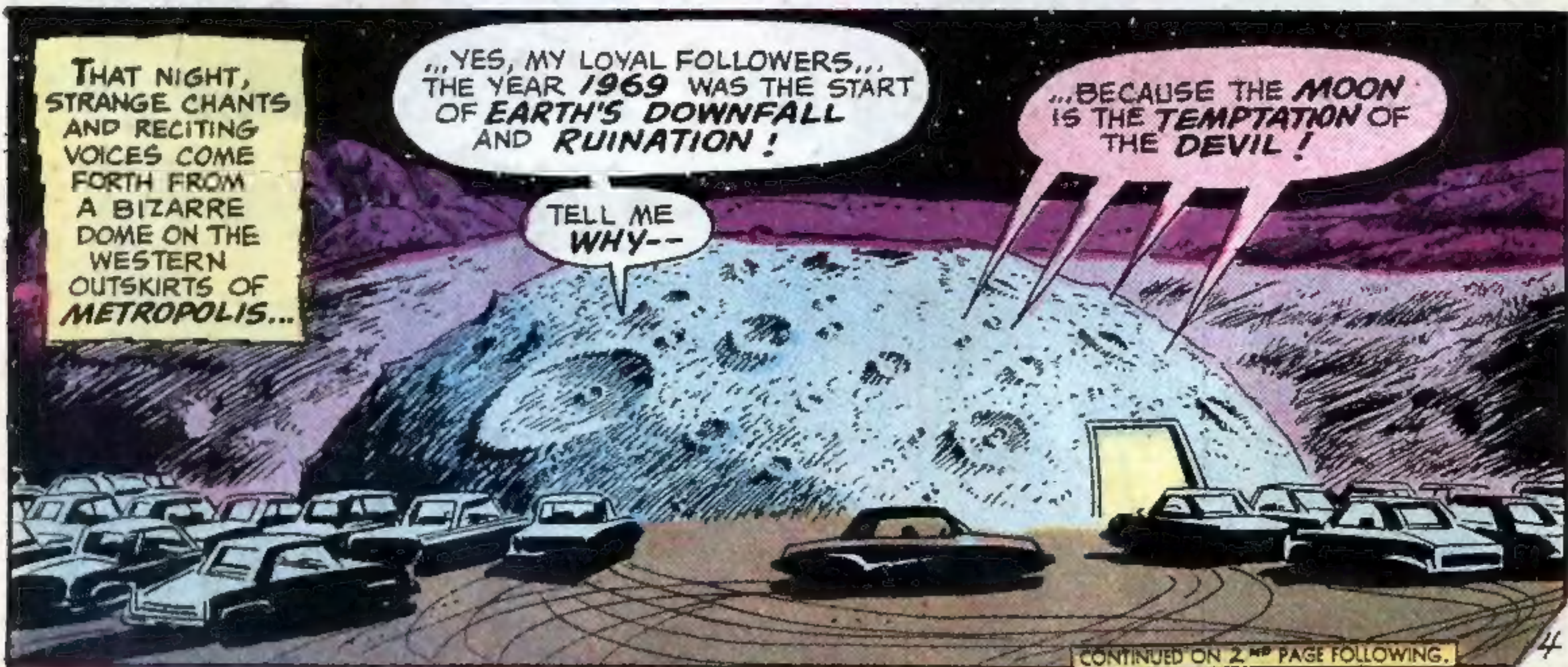
...CRASHED THROUGH
THE ROOF AND FLEW
OFF INTO THE SKY!

HMM...
THAT
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE
RIP-OFF
OF THE
JET'S
WING
EARLIER
TODAY!



SPECIMENS
FROM THE MOON
ARE EXTREMELY
VALUABLE... AN
ENTICING PRIZE
FOR ANY THIEF!

NOT JUST
ANY THIEF!
A ROBBERY LIKE
THIS MUST BE
THE WORK OF A
MASTER CRIMINAL!



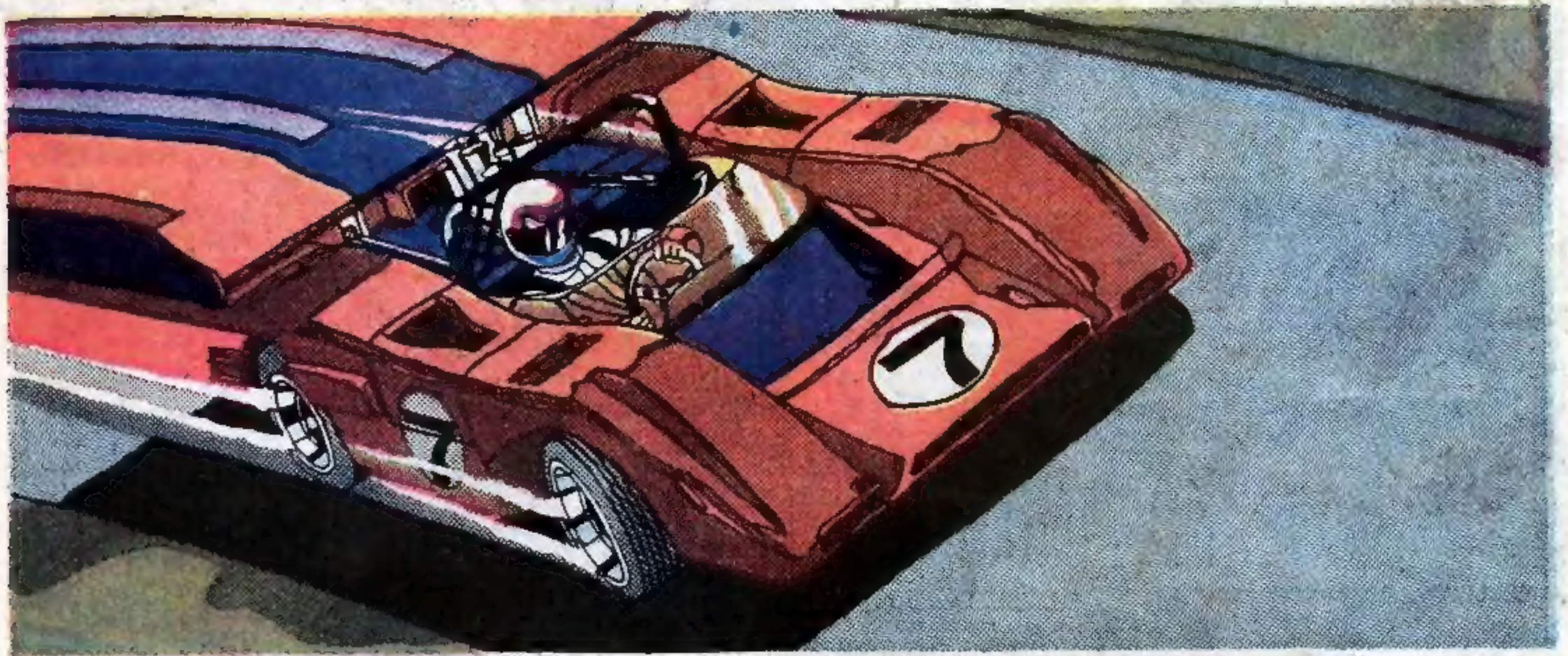
THAT NIGHT,
STRANGE CHANTS
AND RECITING
VOICES COME
FORTH FROM
A BIZARRE
DOME ON THE
WESTERN
OUTSKIRTS OF
METROPOLIS...

...YES, MY LOYAL FOLLOWERS...
THE YEAR 1969 WAS THE START
OF **EARTH'S DOWNFALL**
AND **RUINATION!**

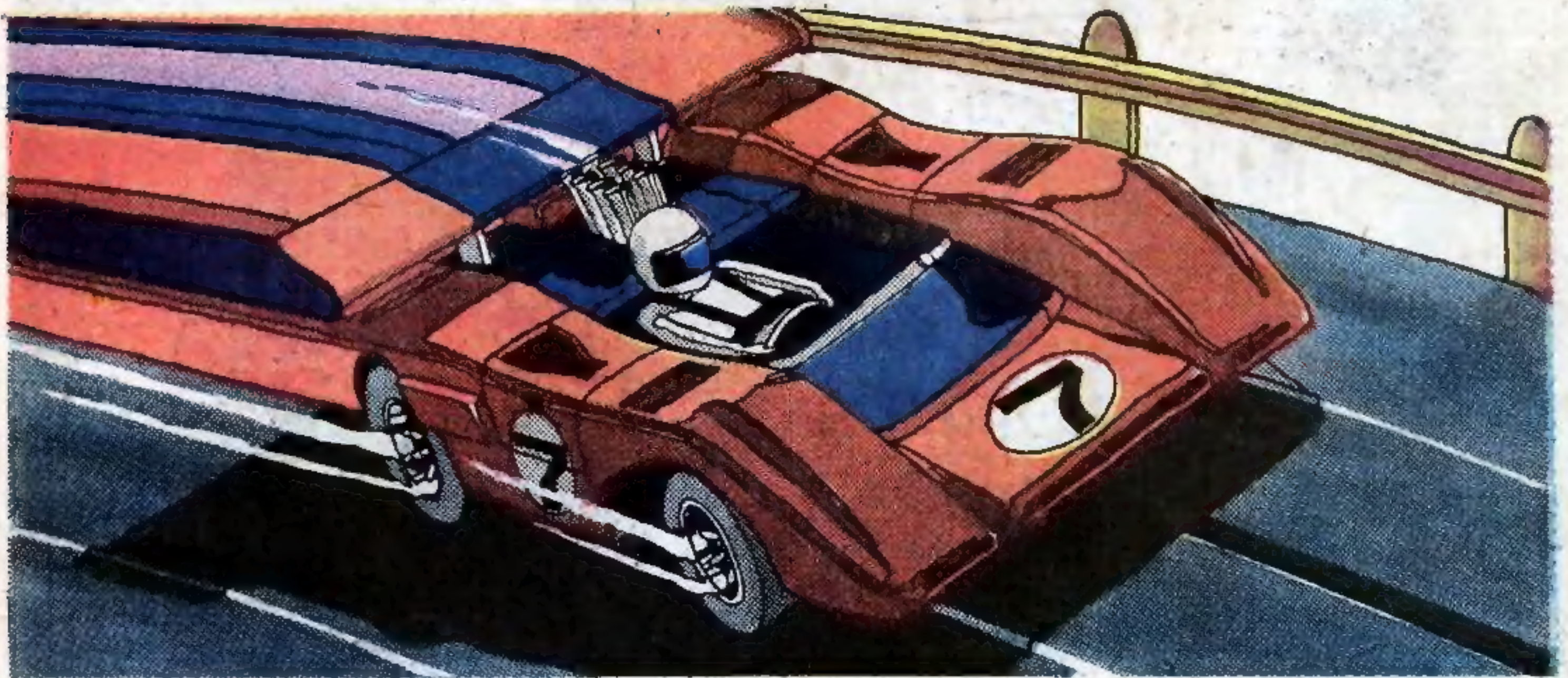
TELL ME
WHY--

...BECAUSE THE **MOON**
IS THE **TEMPTATION** OF
THE **DEVIL!**

Peter Revson drives this car.



You can drive this one.



AFX™

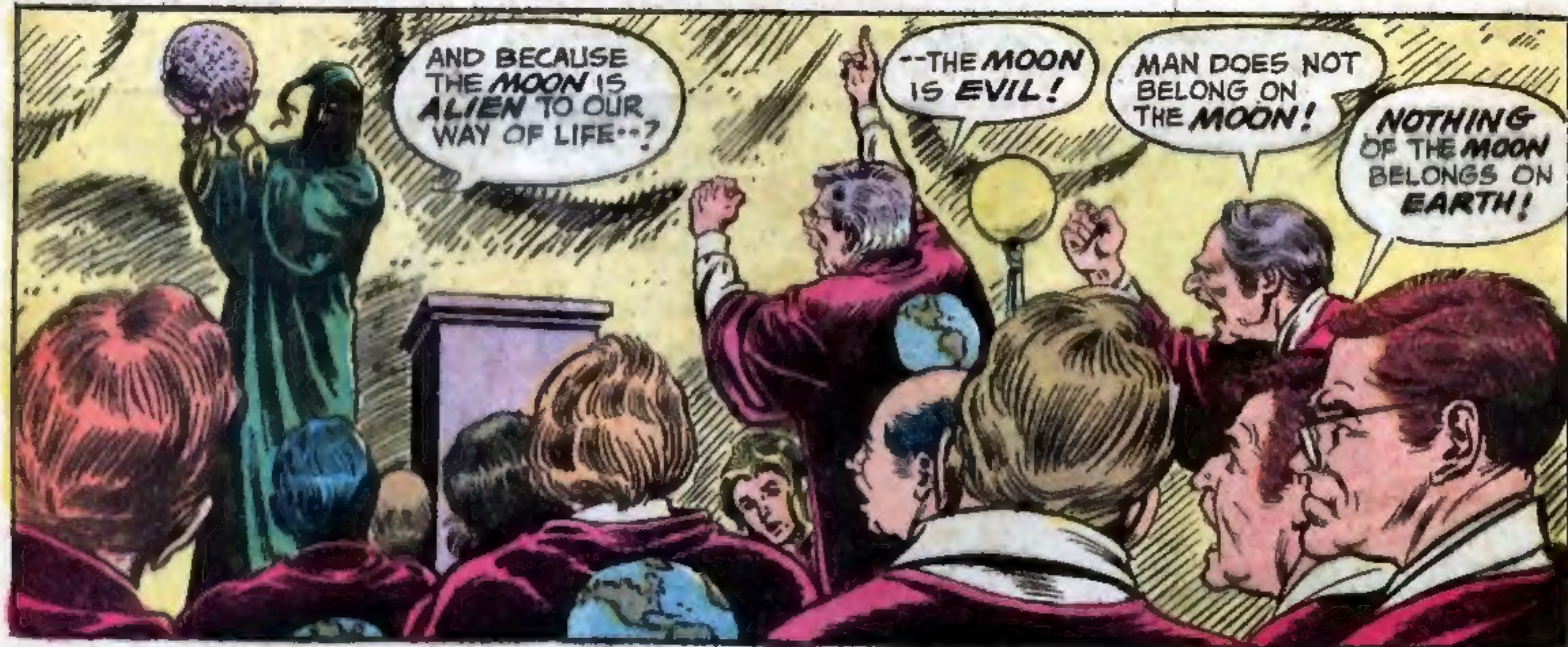
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AND BECAUSE THE MOON IS ALIEN TO OUR WAY OF LIFE--?

--THE MOON IS EVIL!

MAN DOES NOT BELONG ON THE MOON!

NOTHING OF THE MOON BELONGS ON EARTH!



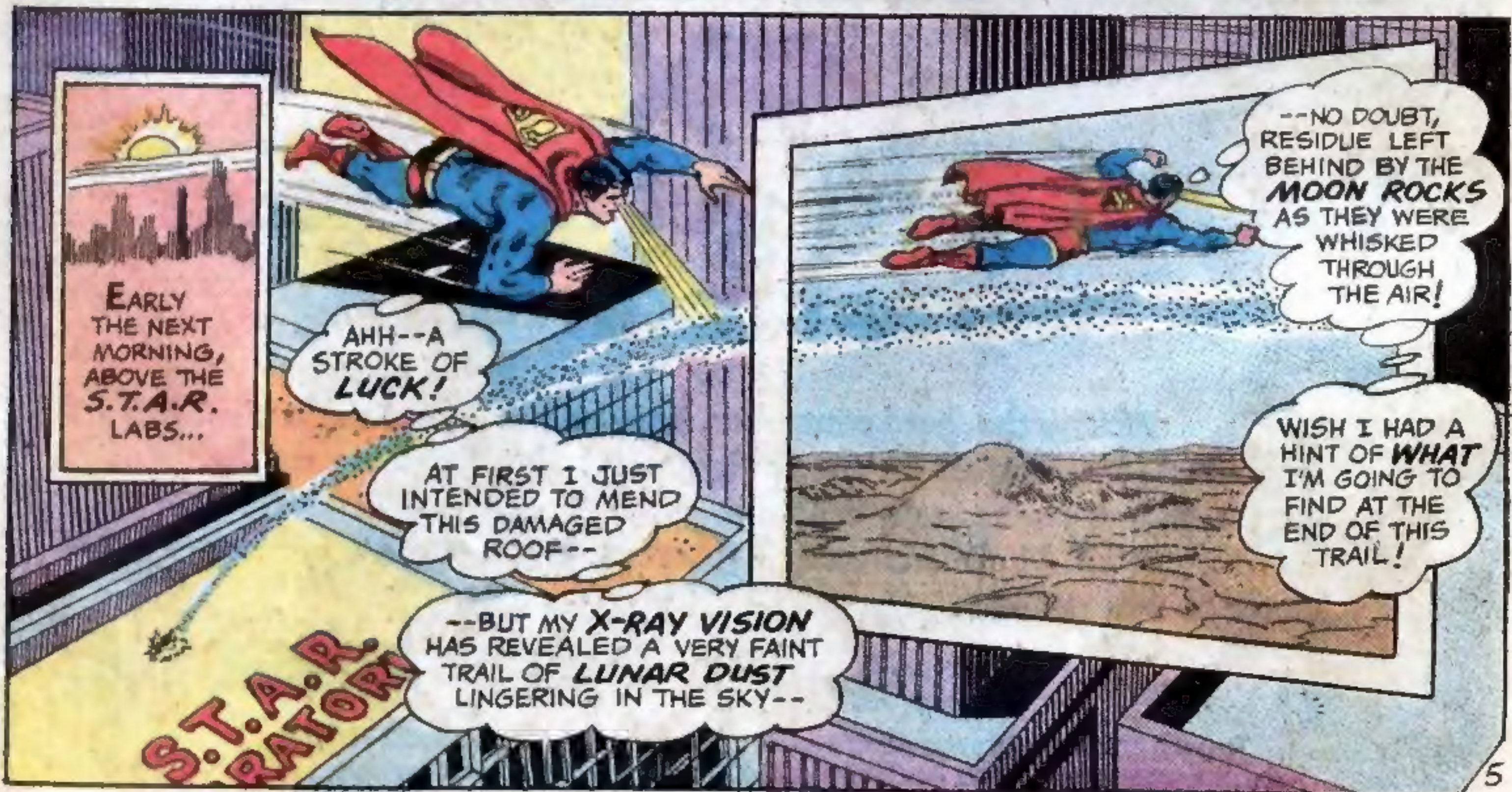
SINCE 1969, MOTHER EARTH HAS BEEN CURSED AND CONTAMINATED BY THESE FOREIGN ROCKS!

CURSED CONTAMINATED!



BUT WE SHALL DESTROY EVERY LAST ONE OF THE MOON ROCKS-- CLEANSE THE EARTH OF LUNAR FILTH!

SO SAY WE ALL!



EARLY THE NEXT MORNING, ABOVE THE S.T.A.R. LABS...

AHH--A STROKE OF LUCK!

AT FIRST I JUST INTENDED TO MEND THIS DAMAGED ROOF--

--BUT MY X-RAY VISION HAS REVEALED A VERY FAINT TRAIL OF LUNAR DUST LINGERING IN THE SKY--

--NO DOUBT, RESIDUE LEFT BEHIND BY THE MOON ROCKS AS THEY WERE WHISKED THROUGH THE AIR!

WISH I HAD A HINT OF WHAT I'M GOING TO FIND AT THE END OF THIS TRAIL!

S.T.A.R. RATORY



YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES, **SUPERMAN!**

...SO I SAY UNTO YOU... THESE FIVE **MOON ROCKS** ARE BUT THE FIRST OF ALL THOSE WE SHALL **DESTROY...**

...TO RID **EARTH** OF ITS **LUNAR POISON!**



INTO THE **COSMIC CAULDRON** THEY GO...

...ALONG WITH ALL THE **DISASTERS AND DISEASES** THEY HAVE INFLICTED UPON OUR PLANET--

AWAY WITH **DISASTERS AND DISEASES!**

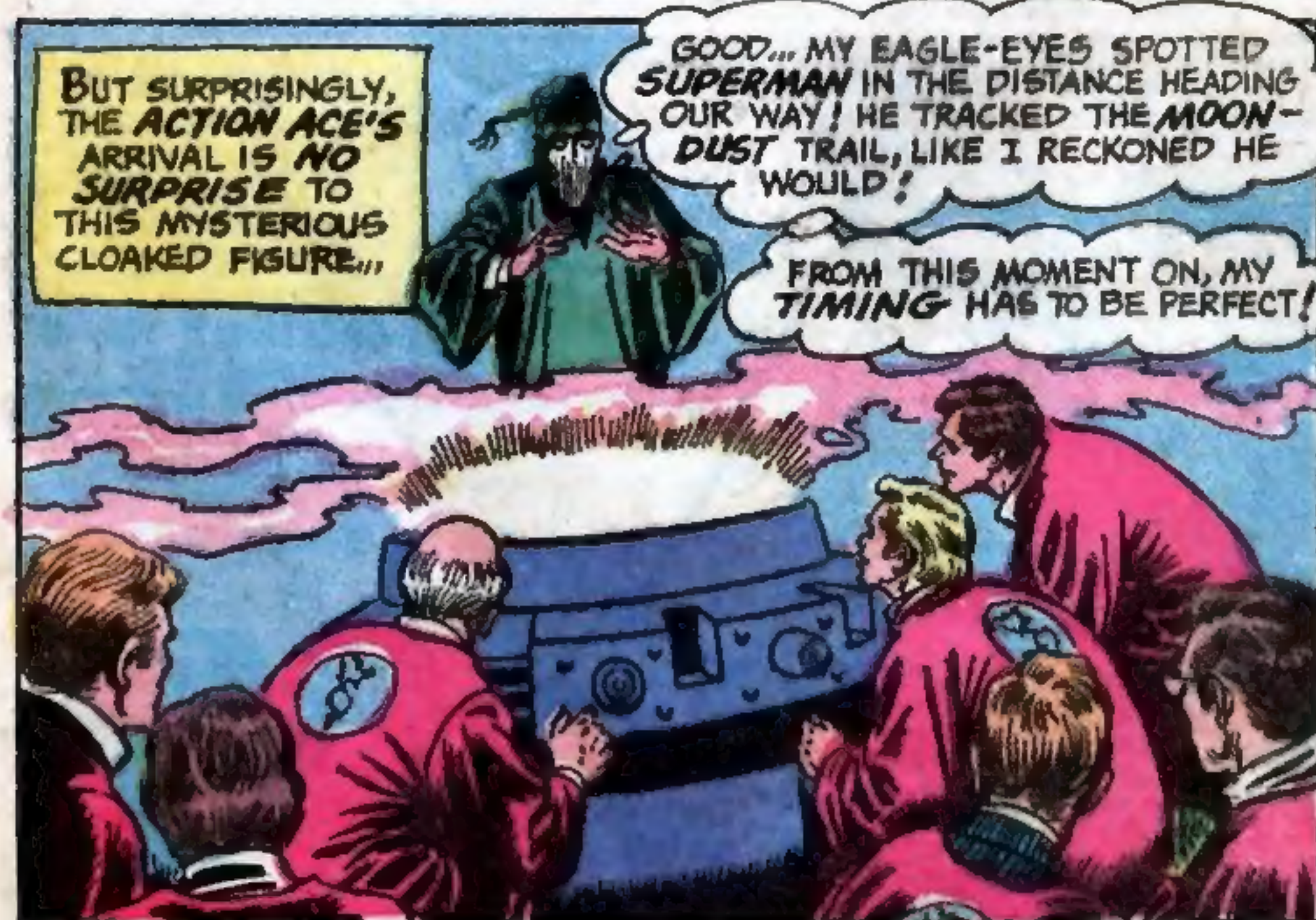


AND WITH THESE DREADED ROCKS GO THE **WARS AND FAMINES** THAT HAVE PLAGUED OUR PLANET SINCE **1969--**



AWAY WITH **WARS AND FAMINES!**

CHANTING VOICES... COMING FROM BEYOND THAT ROW OF TREES UP AHEAD!



BUT SURPRISINGLY, THE **ACTION ACE'S** ARRIVAL IS NO **SURPRISE** TO THIS MYSTERIOUS CLOAKED FIGURE...

GOOD... MY EAGLE-EYES SPOTTED **SUPERMAN** IN THE DISTANCE HEADING OUR WAY! HE TRACKED THE **MOON-DUST** TRAIL, LIKE I RECKONED HE WOULD!

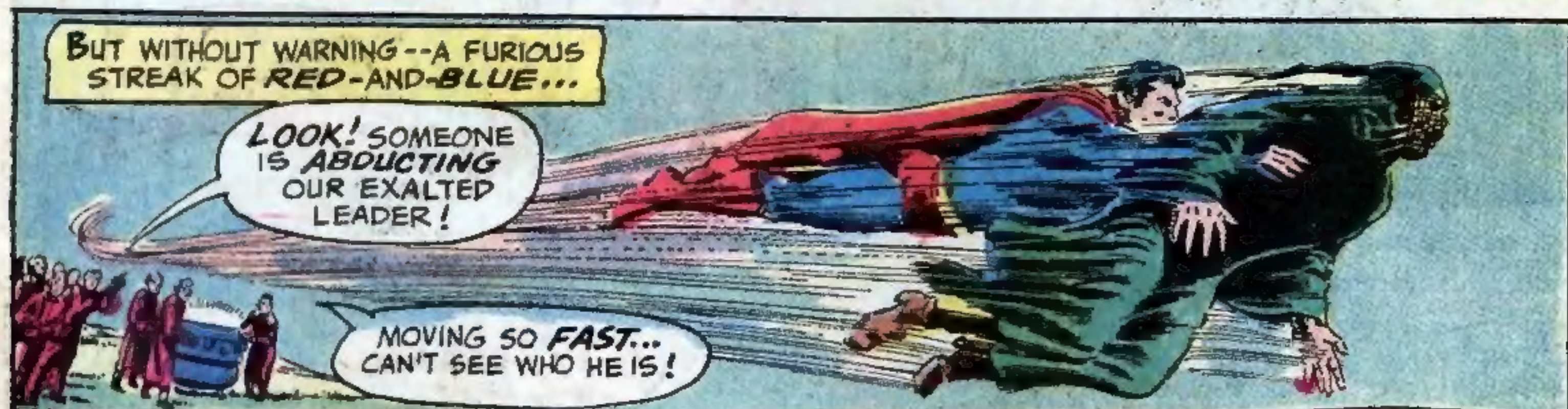
FROM THIS MOMENT ON, MY **TIMING** HAS TO BE PERFECT!



FELLOW PATRIOTS--I'VE INSTRUCTED YOU HOW TO **IGNITE** THE **COSMIC CAULDRON** TO DESTROY THE **MOON ROCKS!** YOU'LL DETONATE EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES FROM **NOW!**

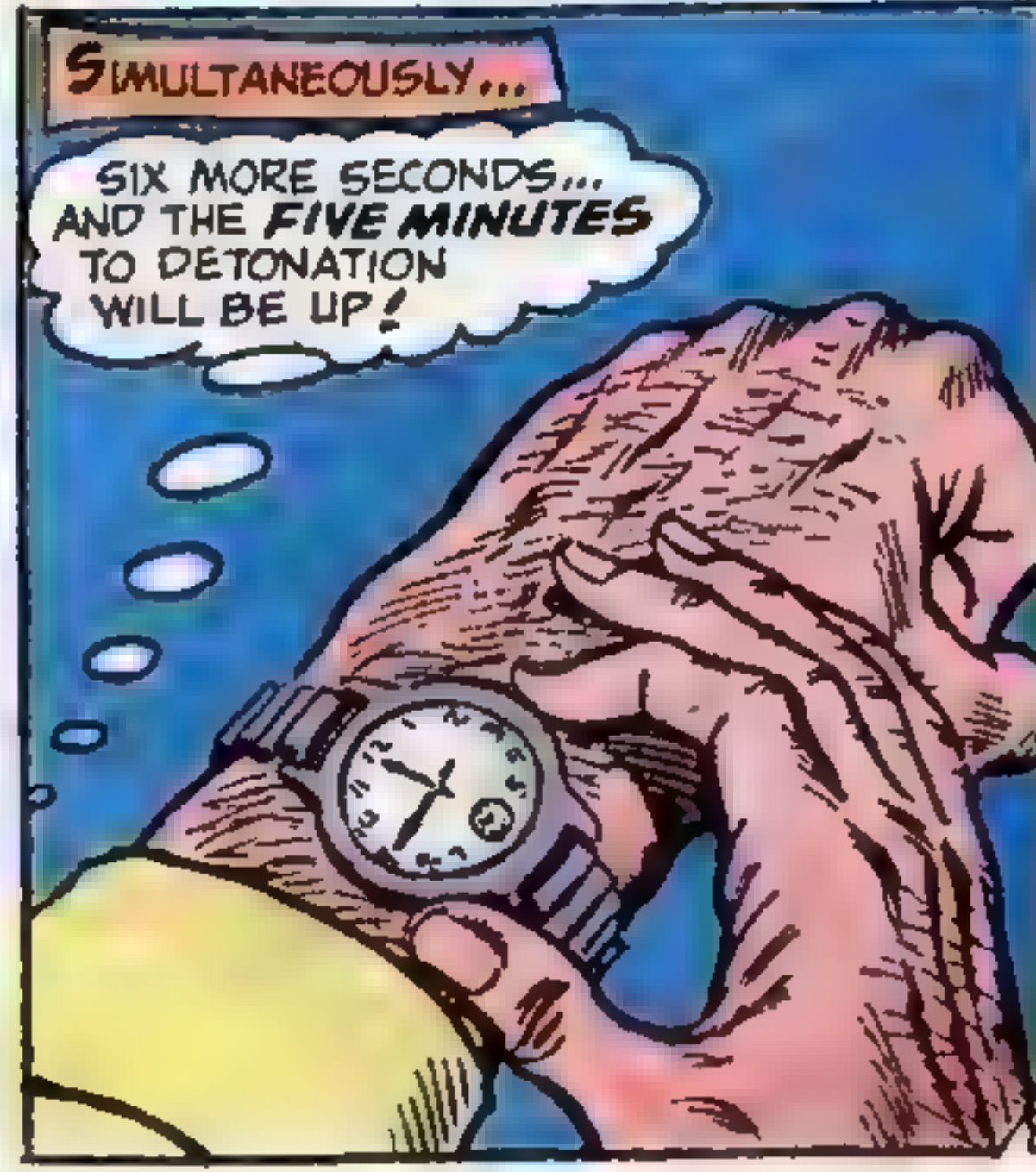
REMEMBER, THE **THREE** OF YOU MUST PUSH YOUR CONTROLS AT EXACTLY THE SAME **INSTANT!**

BEGIN COUNT-DOWN--**NOW!**



*EDITOR'S NOTE:
REGULAR READERS NEED NO REMINDER OF TERRA-MAN-- THE DREADED DESPERADO FROM THE OLD WEST WHO IS ARMED WITH WESTERN WEAPONS SO FAR ADVANCED-- HIS FANTASTIC FEATS SEEM LIKE SHEER MAGIC!





AT THE CRITICAL MOMENT--
THREE FINGERS PUSH THREE
DIFFERENT CONTROLS ON THE
COSMIC CHILDREN...

BAROOMM

REJOICE!

AS OUR
GRAND LEADER
GUARANTEED,
THE CURSED
MOON ROCKS
HAVE BEEN
OBLITERATED!

MEANTIME, NOT FAR AWAY...

TARNATION!
IT AIN'T
HUMANLY
POSSIBLE!

TERRA DIDN'T
FIGURE ON MY
SUPER-MUSCLES
BEING EXPANDED
WHEN HIS
STRANGLING
SCARF WRAPPED
AROUND ME!

WHEN I
UNFLEXED
THEM...I
GAINED THE
PRECIOUS
INCH I NEEDED
TO WRIGGLE
LOOSE!

LIKE I
RECKONED...
THE WIND IS
BLOWIN' THE
SMOKE FROM
THE MOON-
ROCK
EXPLOSION
MY WAY--

--AND NOW MY
SIX-GUN IS ABSORBIN'
IT...CAUSE THESE LUNAR
PARTICLES ARE THE SPECIAL
AMMO THIS SHOOTIN'
IRON TAKES!

BUT WHILE SUPERMAN
IS BUSY SQUIRMING HIS
WAY TO FREEDOM...

MY NEW CUSTOM-GUN WILL
PLANT YOU IN BOOT HILL,
SUPERMAN!

SPEAKING
OF BOOTS--

--MINE CAN BE A
VERY DISARMING
WEAPON!

UNNGGH!

YOU'RE
FINISHED,
PARTNER--

--NOW THAT
YOUR GUN
IS OUT OF
YOUR HAND
--AND IN
MINE!

SCANT SECONDS LATER, ON THE GROUND...

OKAY... LOOKS
LIKE YUH
BAGGED ME,
SUPERMAN...
FAIR AN'
SQUARE!

ODD...
TERRA-MAN
NEVER
SURRENDERED
TO ME SO
WILLINGLY
BEFORE!

WHY
NOW?

GREAT KRYPTON!
I'M BEGINNING TO
UNDERSTAND...

HA, HA!
JUST ONE
MORE
SECOND,
AND--

BUT THE METROPOLIS MARVEL
REACTS WITH REFLEXES FASTER
THAN THE MORTAL MIND CAN
COMPREHEND...

IT'S ME! I AM
THE ONE WHO'S
TRIGGERING
OFF THAT GUN!

BLAST!
YUH
FIGURED
IT OUT!

MY SIX-GUN
WAS REALLY A
BOMB-- RIGGED
TO BE SET OFF
BY CONTACT
WITH YOUR
INVULNERABLE
HAND!

LATER, AFTER
THE SAGEBRUSH
SATAN HAS
BOASTED THE
DETAILS OF HIS
FIENDISH BUT
UNSUCCESSFUL
PLAN...

...AND I NEEDED THOSE
LUNATICS TO OPERATE
MY COSMIC CAULDRON--

-- TO EXPLODE THE MOON
ROCKS AN' CREATE THE
LUNAR FALLOUT TO
POWER MY "GUN-BOMB"!

IF I HADN'T
LET GO OF
THE GUN
IN TIME--

SO I
DEDUCED!
YOU WANTED
TO GET
CAPTURED...
KNOWING I
WAS BOUND
TO TAKE
YOUR GUN
AWAY
FROM YOU!

BUT I GAVE IT
A SUPER-THROW
TO THE EARTH'S
CORE, WHERE IT
CAN DO NO
HARM!

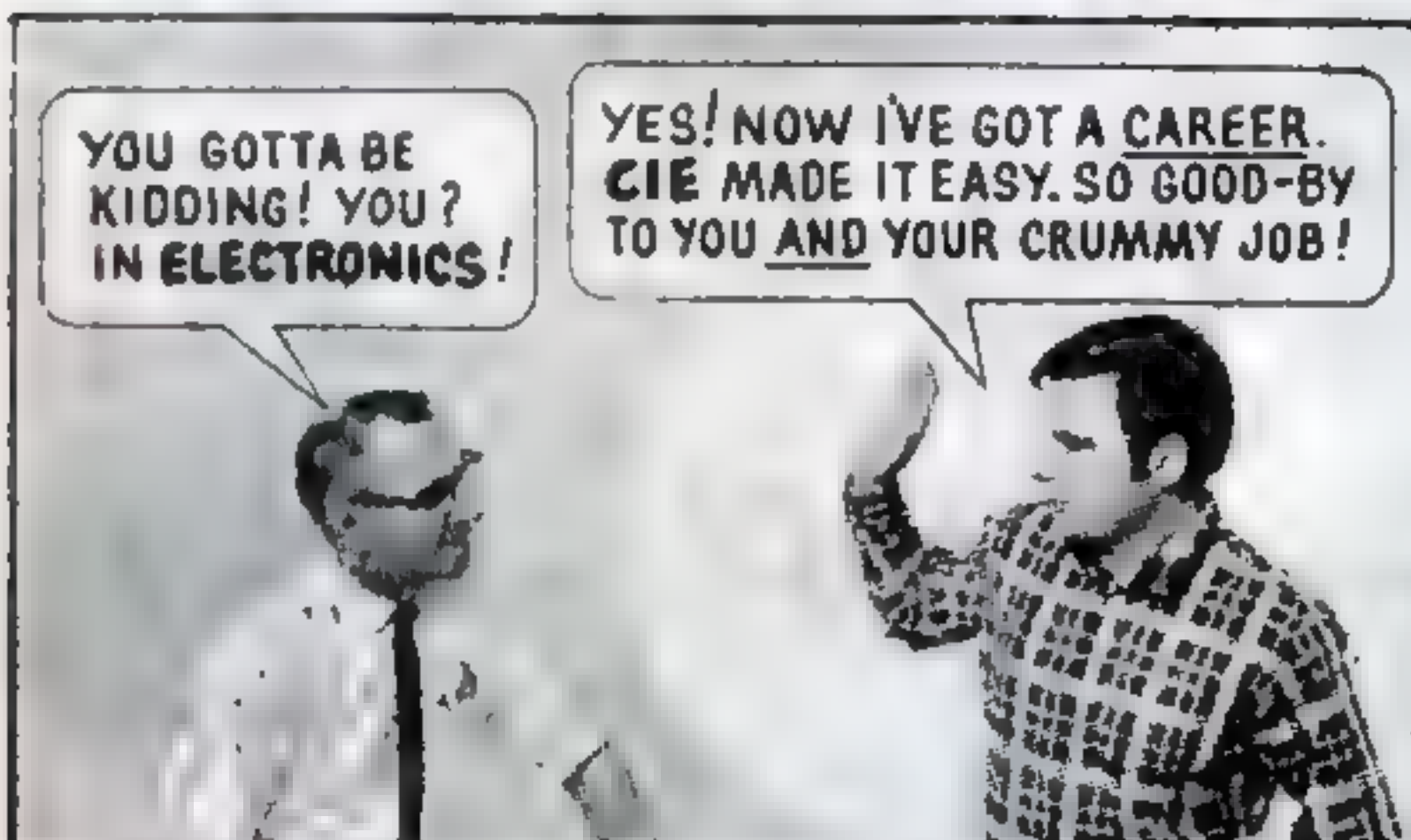
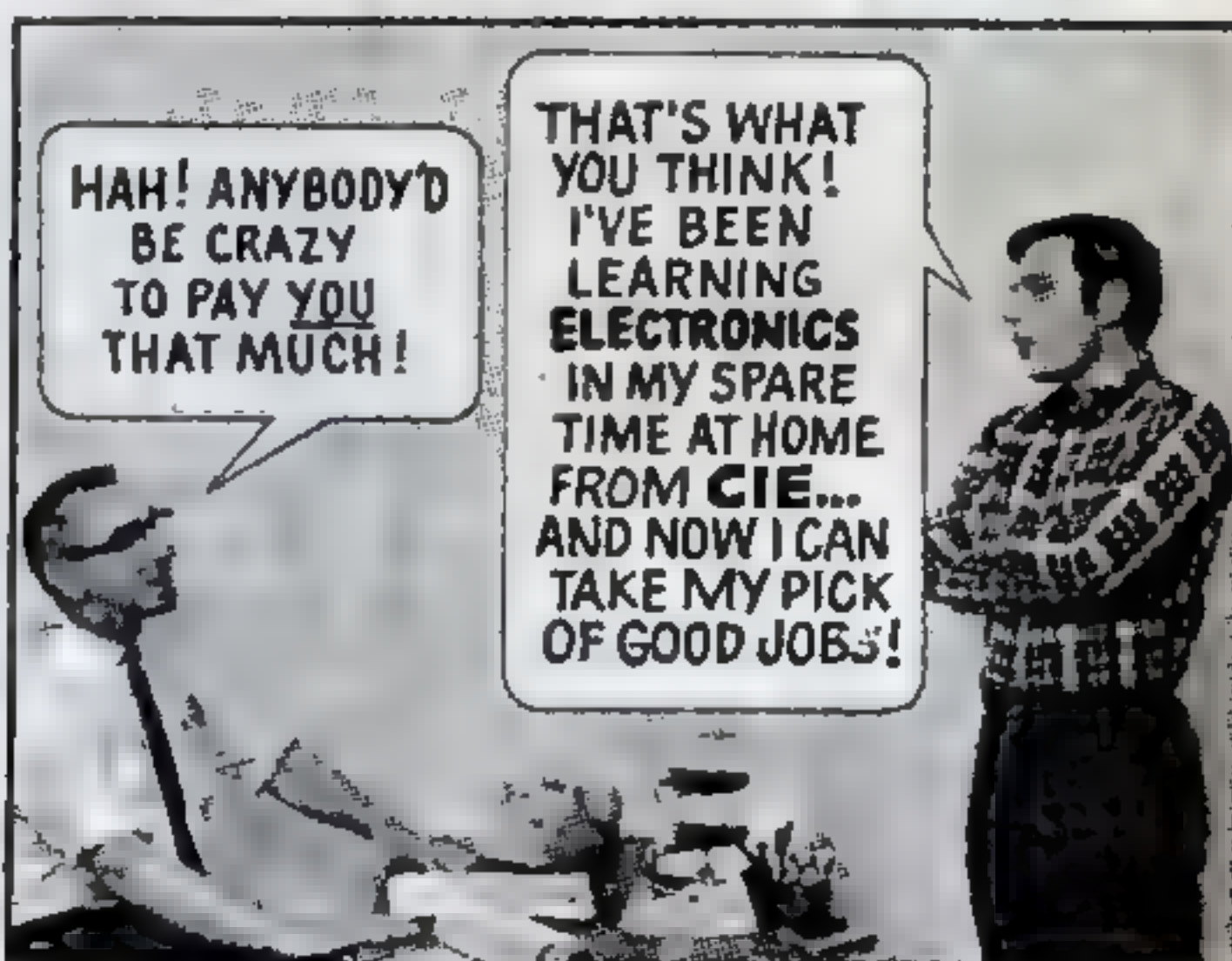
-- YOUR ATOMS
WOULD'VE BEEN
SCATTERED ALL
OVER THE
SOLAR SYSTEM!

WHAT D'YUH SAY
TO THAT,
SUPERMAN?

I'LL LET YOU
KNOW WHEN YOUR
PRISON
SENTENCE
IS UP... SOME-
TIME NEXT
CENTURY!

THE
END

The day Bill told off his boss



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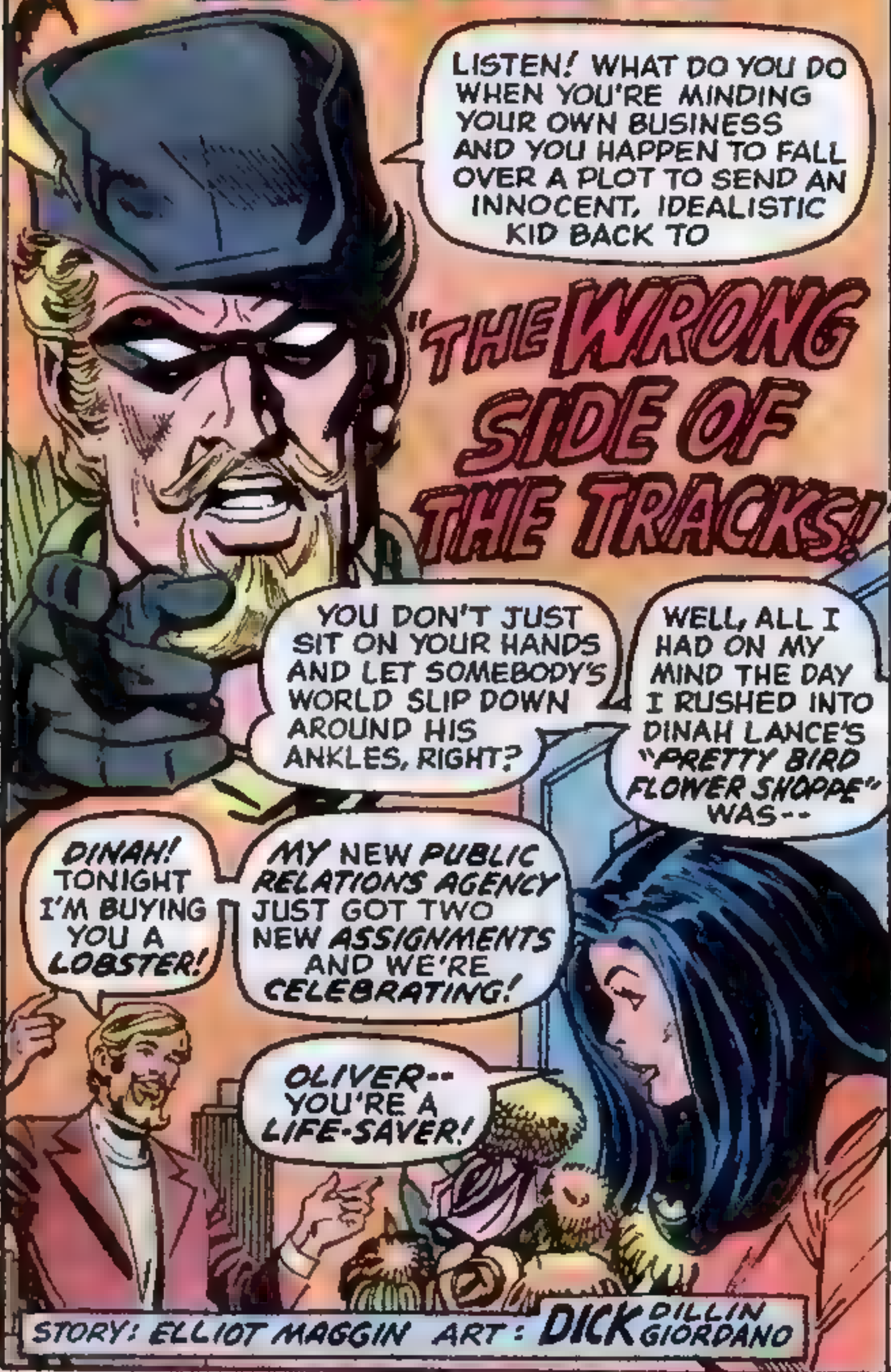
Veterans and Servicemen:

Check here for G.I. Bill information.



NC-07

GREEN ARROW



LISTEN! WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE MINDING YOUR OWN BUSINESS AND YOU HAPPEN TO FALL OVER A PLOT TO SEND AN INNOCENT, IDEALISTIC KID BACK TO

"THE WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS!"

YOU DON'T JUST SIT ON YOUR HANDS AND LET SOMEBODY'S WORLD SLIP DOWN AROUND HIS ANKLES, RIGHT?

WELL, ALL I HAD ON MY MIND THE DAY I RUSHED INTO DINAH LANCE'S "PRETTY BIRD FLOWER SHOPPE" WAS--

DINAH! TONIGHT I'M BUYING YOU A LOBSTER!

MY NEW PUBLIC RELATIONS AGENCY JUST GOT TWO NEW ASSIGNMENTS AND WE'RE CELEBRATING!

OLIVER-- YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER!

STORY: ELLIOT MAGGIN ART: DICK DILLIN GIORDANO



I JUST GOT AN EMERGENCY ORDER TO FILL 25 TABLE-SETTINGS FOR A WEDDING TONIGHT!

YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THE SHOP WHILE I SET UP, OLLIE?

WELL, I TOOK THE DAY OFF TO DESIGN A SPECIAL ARROW THAT--



MMF--

AND THEY SAY IT'S THE WOMEN WHO NEED LIBERATING!

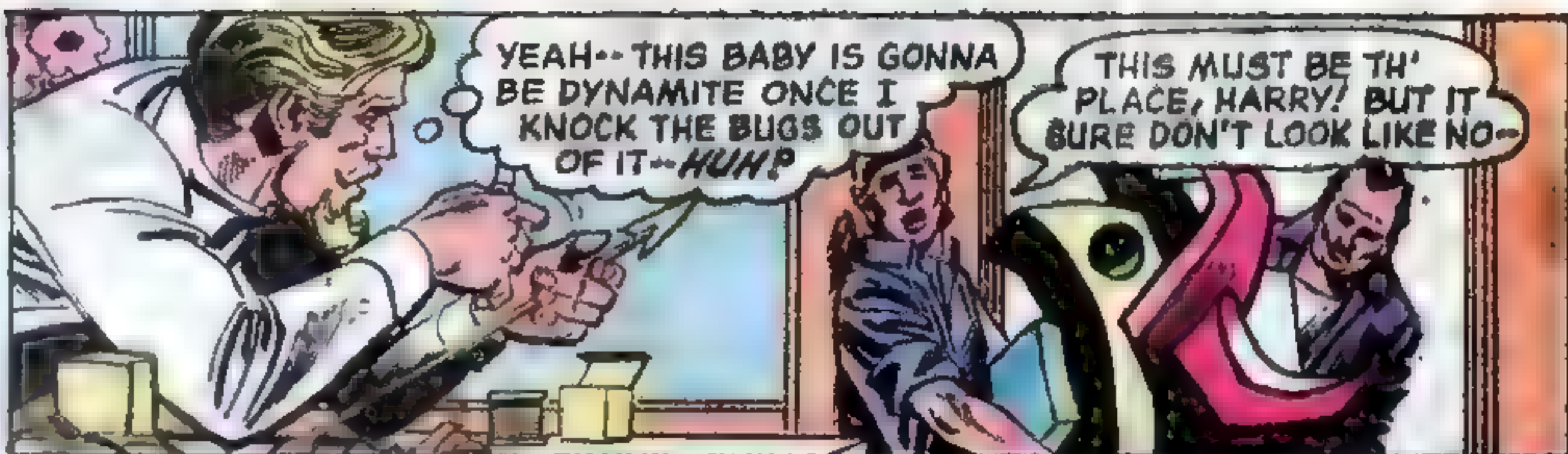


THERE ARE PLENTY OF TOOLS FOR ARROW-MAKING IN THE BACK ROOM...

I'LL BE BACK BEFORE FIVE!-- AND I'LL BE GOOD AND HUNGRY!



"I WAS WELL INTO MY NEW ARROW--WHEN AROUND NOON..."



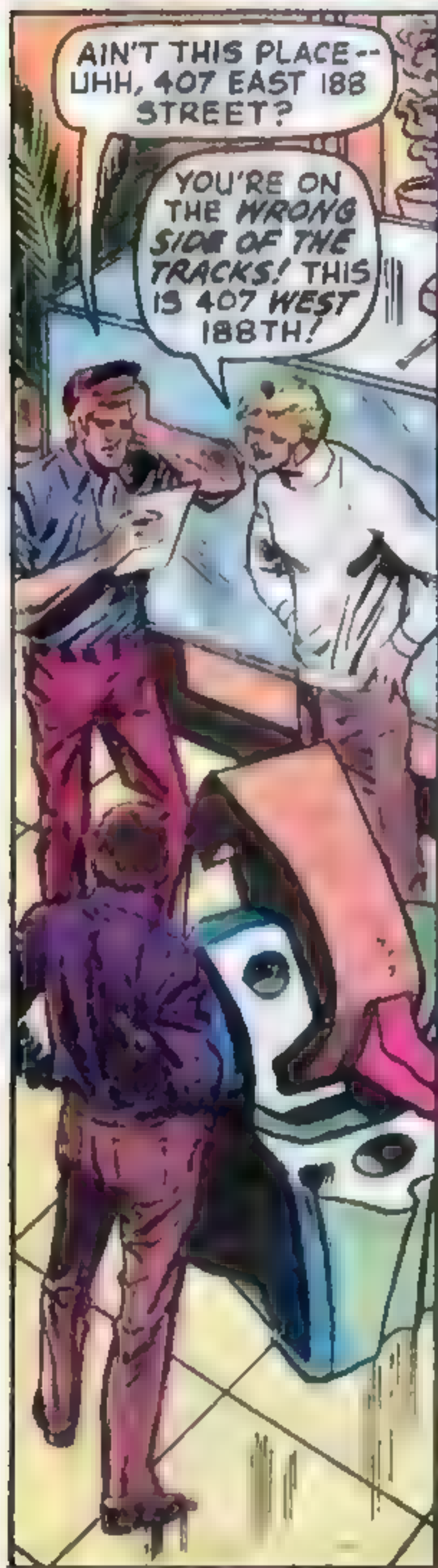
YEAH-- THIS BABY IS GONNA BE DYNAMITE ONCE I KNOCK THE BUGS OUT OF IT--HUN?

THIS MUST BE TH' PLACE, HARRY! BUT IT SURE DON'T LOOK LIKE NO--



SAY-- WHAT IS THIS...?

DO YOU TWO CLOWNS ALWAYS TRAVEL WITH REJECTS FROM A STAR TREK SET--?



AIN'T THIS PLACE-- UHH, 407 EAST 188 STREET?

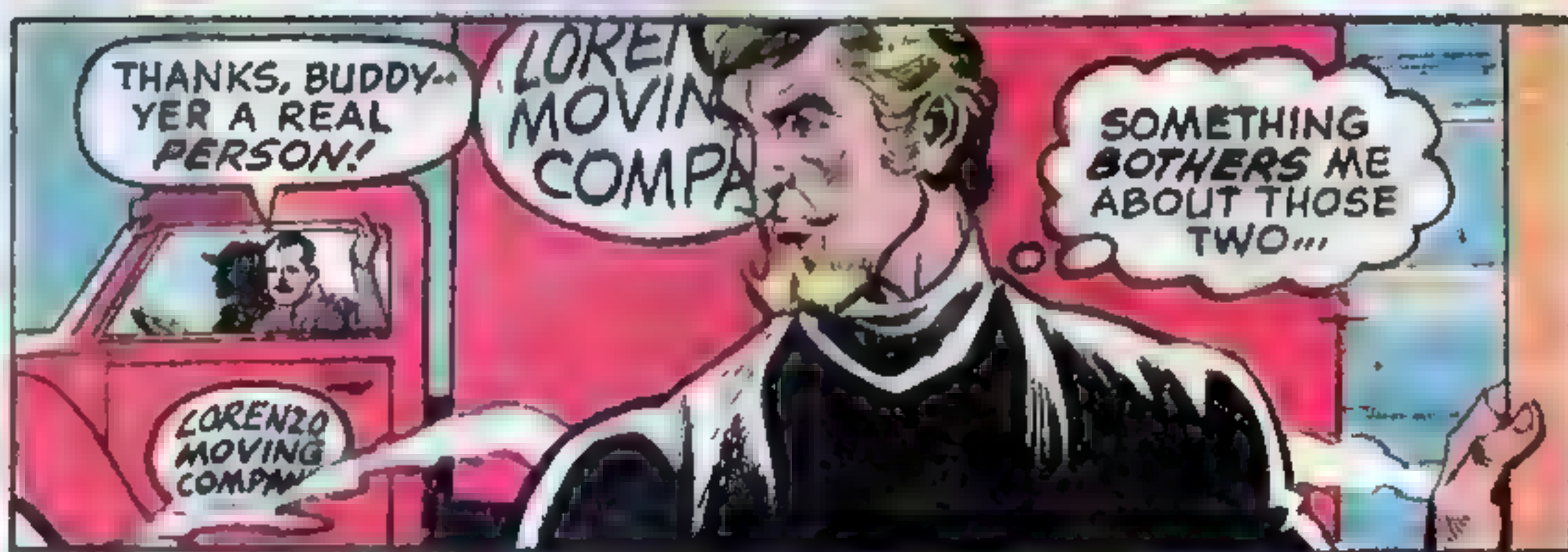
YOU'RE ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS! THIS IS 407 WEST 188TH!



MISTER, WE'D SURE APPRECIATE DIRECTIONS TO GET THERE... WE'RE LATE WITH THIS SCULPTURE DELIVERY!

LISTEN-- IF YOU DROP A BOWL OF SPAGHETTI OUT A WINDOW, THE WAY IT LANDS WILL LOOK LIKE A STREET MAP OF STAR CITY! BUT-- I'LL UNRAVEL THE WAY TO 188TH FOR YOU...

LORENZO MOVING COMPANY



THANKS, BUDDY-- YER A REAL PERSON!

LORENZO MOVING COMPANY

SOMETHING BOTHERS ME ABOUT THOSE TWO...



"I SAT DOWN TO FINISH MY GADGET WHEN IT HIT ME..."



OF COURSE! THEIR TRUCK SAID "LORENZO MOVING" BUT THAT CONCERN WENT OUT OF BUSINESS LAST YEAR!

SOMETHING'S SCREWY ABOUT THAT PAIR ALL RIGHT!

"IT WAS A CINCH I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SIT AND TINKER UNTIL I FOUND OUT WHAT WAS UP, SO..."

THOSE CHARACTERS SAID 407 EAST 188 STREET...

WILL BE BACK AT

SWINGING ON ROPE-ARROWS WILL GET ME TO **EAST 188TH** FASTER THAN A TRUCK WOULD--

"I GOT THERE AS THE TRUCK PULLED UP TO THE **OSBORNE FOUNDATION BUILDING!** I SPOTTED WHICH ELEVATOR BUTTON THE TWO PUSHED... AND FOLLOWED THEM *MY WAY*..."

YOU MR. OSBORNE?

AH... MY SCULPTURE!

"WHEW! MY "BUGGING" SHAFT IS ACTING UP LIKE CRAZY..."

...WHICH MEANS THAT ANOTHER "BUG" HAS JUST ENTERED THIS OFFICE-- ON THAT "SCULPTURE!"

"I SWUNG DOWN IN TIME TO INTERCEPT THE TWO TRUCKERS AS THEY LEFT THE BUILDING..."

HOLD IT! I WANT A WORD WITH YOU CHARACTERS!

GAA--GREEN ARROW!

HEY--THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A SIMPLE JOB!

"THOSE TWO WERE JUST HIRED LACKIES AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON-- AND SINCE THEY DIDN'T WANT ANY **GREEN ARROW** TROUBLE..."

GREGORY GATES, THE FOUNDATION VICE PRESIDENT, PAID US TO DELIVER THE CREEPY THING!

HE GAVE US THIS OLD TRUCK, BUT DIDN'T TELL US ANYTHING WAS **WRONG** WITH IT!

"NEXT STOP WAS BACK AT THE OFFICE OF THE YOUNG FOUNDATION PRESIDENT, **CHATSWORTH OSBORNE, JR.**..."

"I MOTIONED FOR HIM TO KEEP QUIET UNTIL I FOUND THE BUG..."

"I CUPPED THE BUG IN MY HAND AND..."

GREEN ARROW, THIS BEHAVIOR IS **INEXCUSABLE!** WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

CALM YOURSELF, **CHATSWORTH-BABY**... YOU'VE BEEN VICTIM OF A FRAUD!

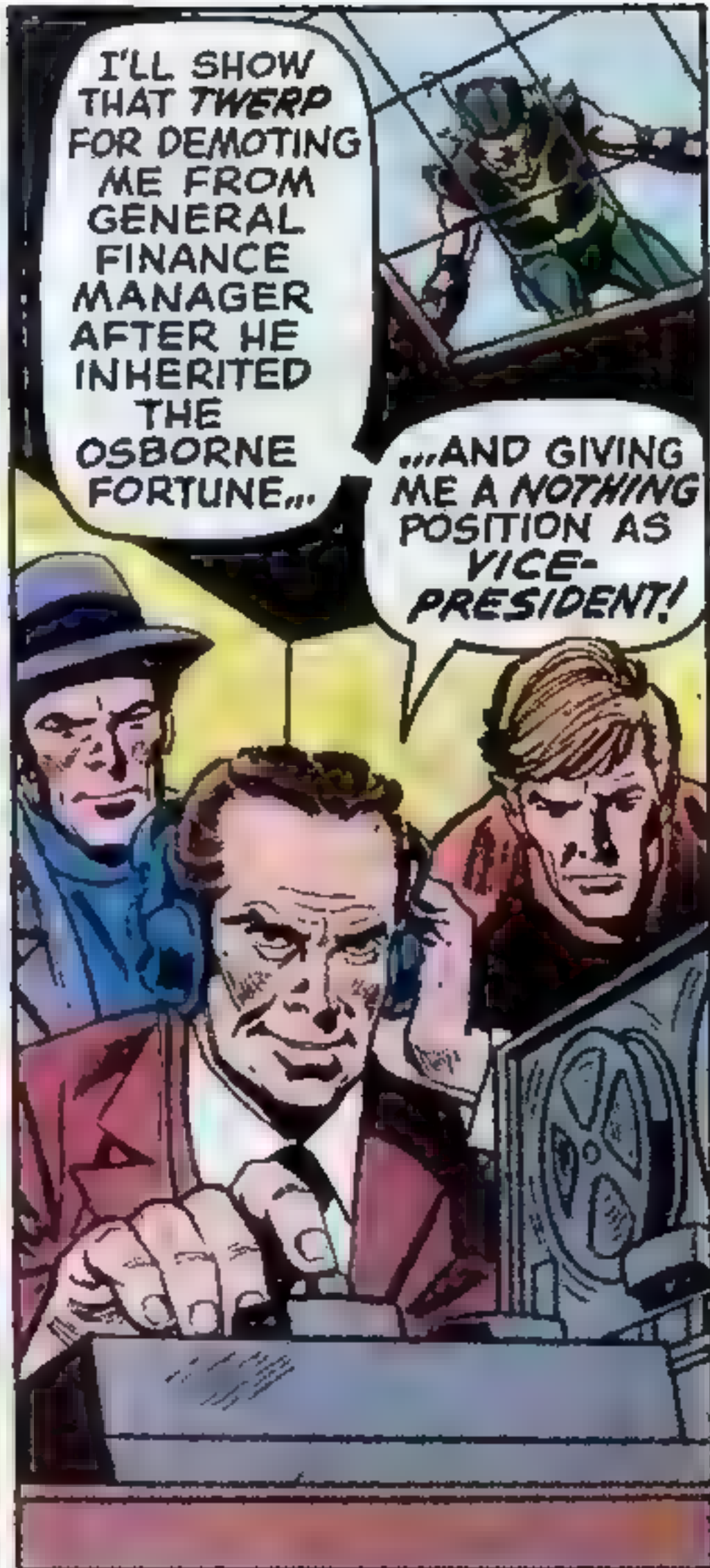
SO LISTEN TO A PROPOSITION I'VE GOT FOR YOU!



"OSBORNE TOLD ME WHERE THIS VEEP, GREGORY GATES, LIVED--AND I MADE IT THERE IN MINUTES..."

EX-CELLENT! THE GIMMICK IS WORKING LIKE A CHARM!

NOW I'LL KNOW EVERY MOVE THAT OSBORNE KID IS GOING TO MAKE!



I'LL SHOW THAT TWERP FOR DEMOTING ME FROM GENERAL FINANCE MANAGER AFTER HE INHERITED THE OSBORNE FORTUNE...

...AND GIVING ME A NOTHING POSITION AS VICE-PRESIDENT!



IMAGINE! THE UPSTART WANTING TO "HELP PEOPLE" WITH HIS MONEY!

CALLED AN OLD-LINE FINANCIAL WIZARD LIKE ME "USELESS"!

WELL, I'LL CRUSH THE WHIPPERSNAPPER UNDER SUCH A WAVE OF ECONOMIC BAD LUCK HIS HEAD WILL SPIN!



I HAD SOME DOUBTS ABOUT YOUNG OSBORNE'S SINCERITY, BUT I'VE HEARD ENOUGH...



...TO SEND HIM A SIGNAL IN HIS OFFICE TO CRUSH HIS BUG...



...AND GIVE GRUMPY HERE A NASTY EAR-ACHE!

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Just like real baseball. It is fun to play.

—*G. V., Cincinnati, O.*

As close to realism as one can get and therefore far more superior to other competing baseball games.

—*F. T., Manila, P.I.*

Although it's fantastically realistic, it's also very simple to play. —*A. F., Los Angeles, Calif.*

I'm one hundred percent satisfied with it. The game provides hours of fun for me and my friends. It's very realistic, and true to life.

—*C. H., Lanett, Ala.*

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—*P. M., Port Huron, Mich.*

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It has given me more pleasure than any other game.

—*S. E., Rossville, Ind.*

The most exciting and fun game ever.

—*L. S., Boston, Mass.*

It is so stupendous, words can't explain.

—*J. R., Brooklyn, N. Y.*

Best on the market.

—*J. E., Miami, Fla.*

Has given me more enjoyment than I have ever had from any one thing in my entire life. It's worth its weight in gold. As I love baseball, this game gives me something enjoyable to do during the off seasons as well as during the season.

—*S. C., Temple City, Calif.*

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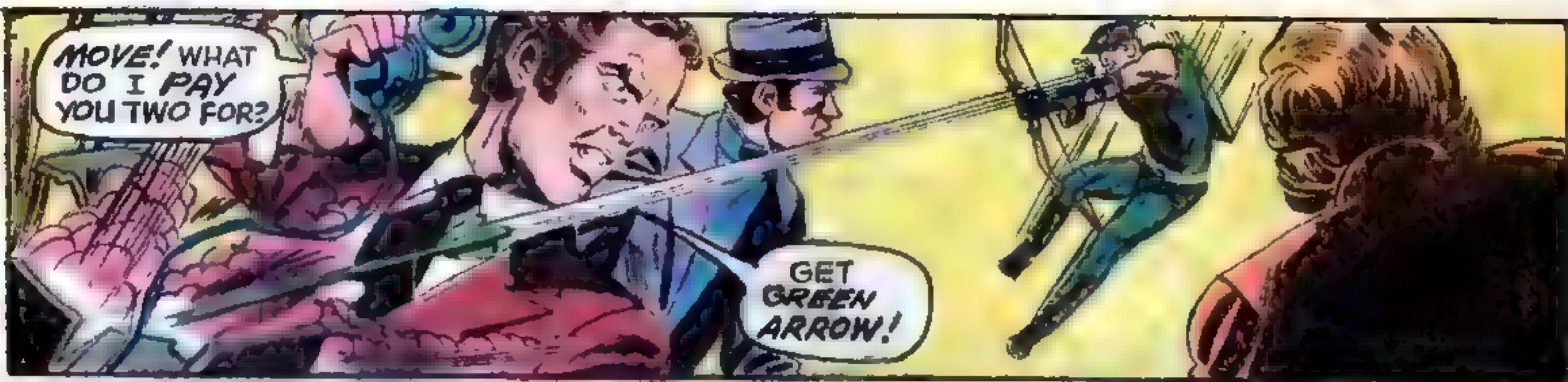
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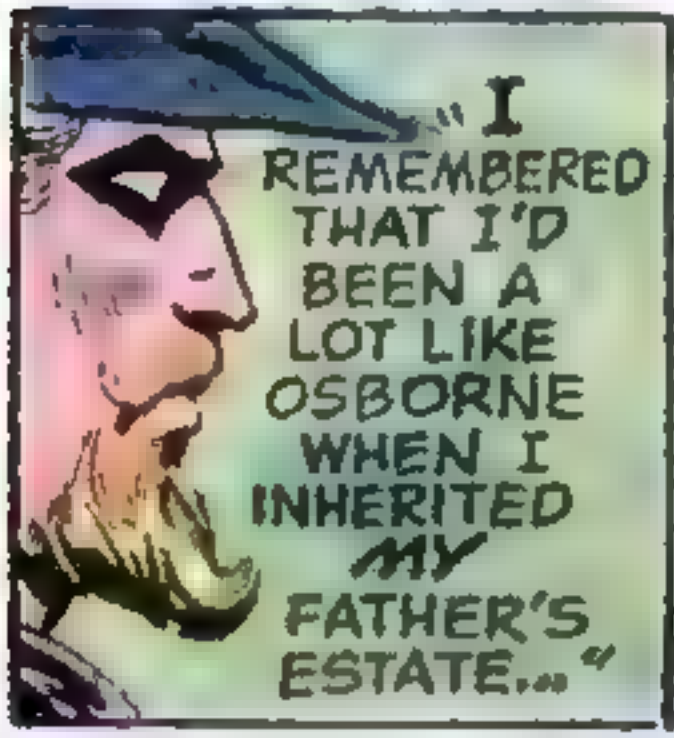
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MOVE! WHAT DO I PAY YOU TWO FOR?

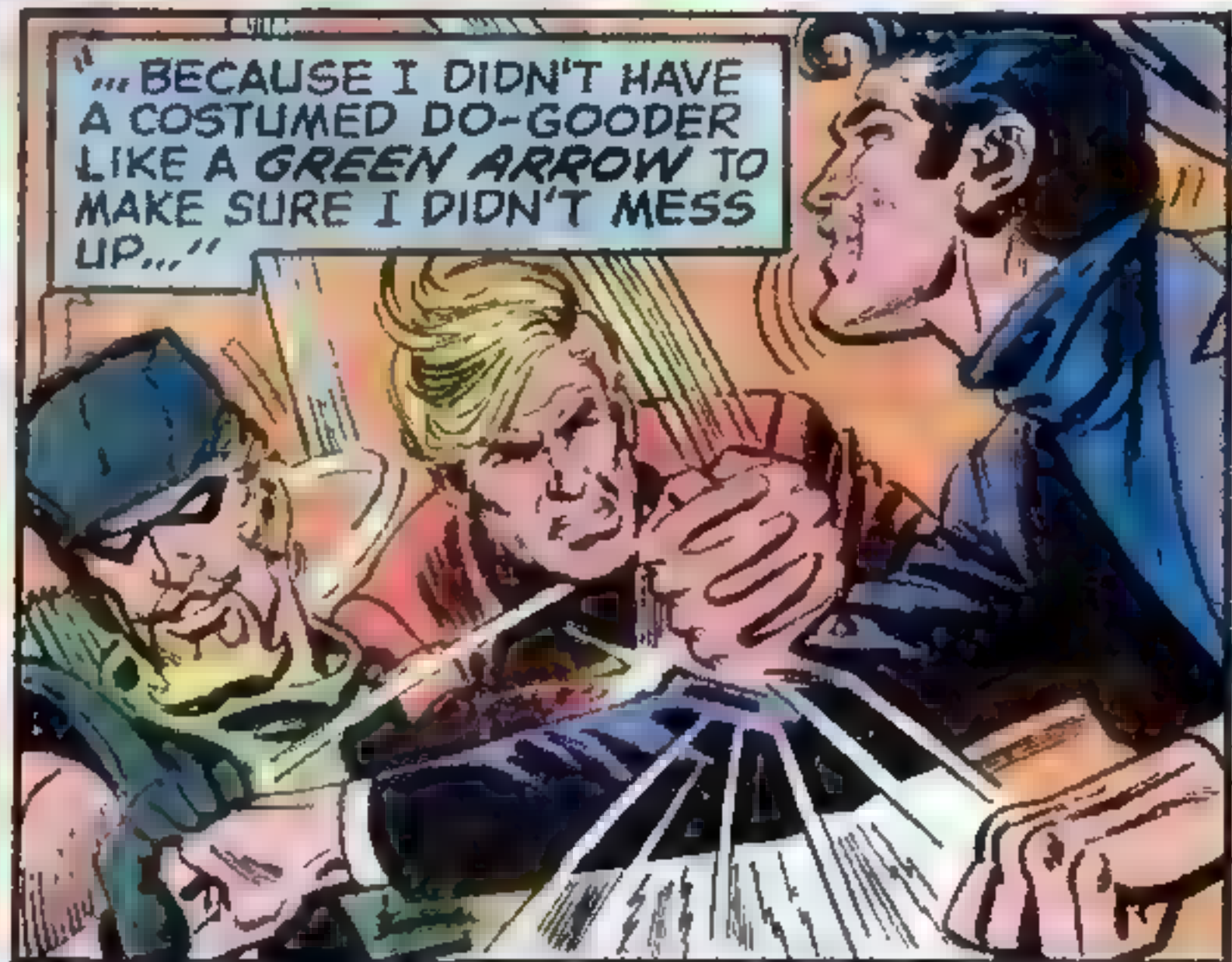
GET GREEN ARROW!



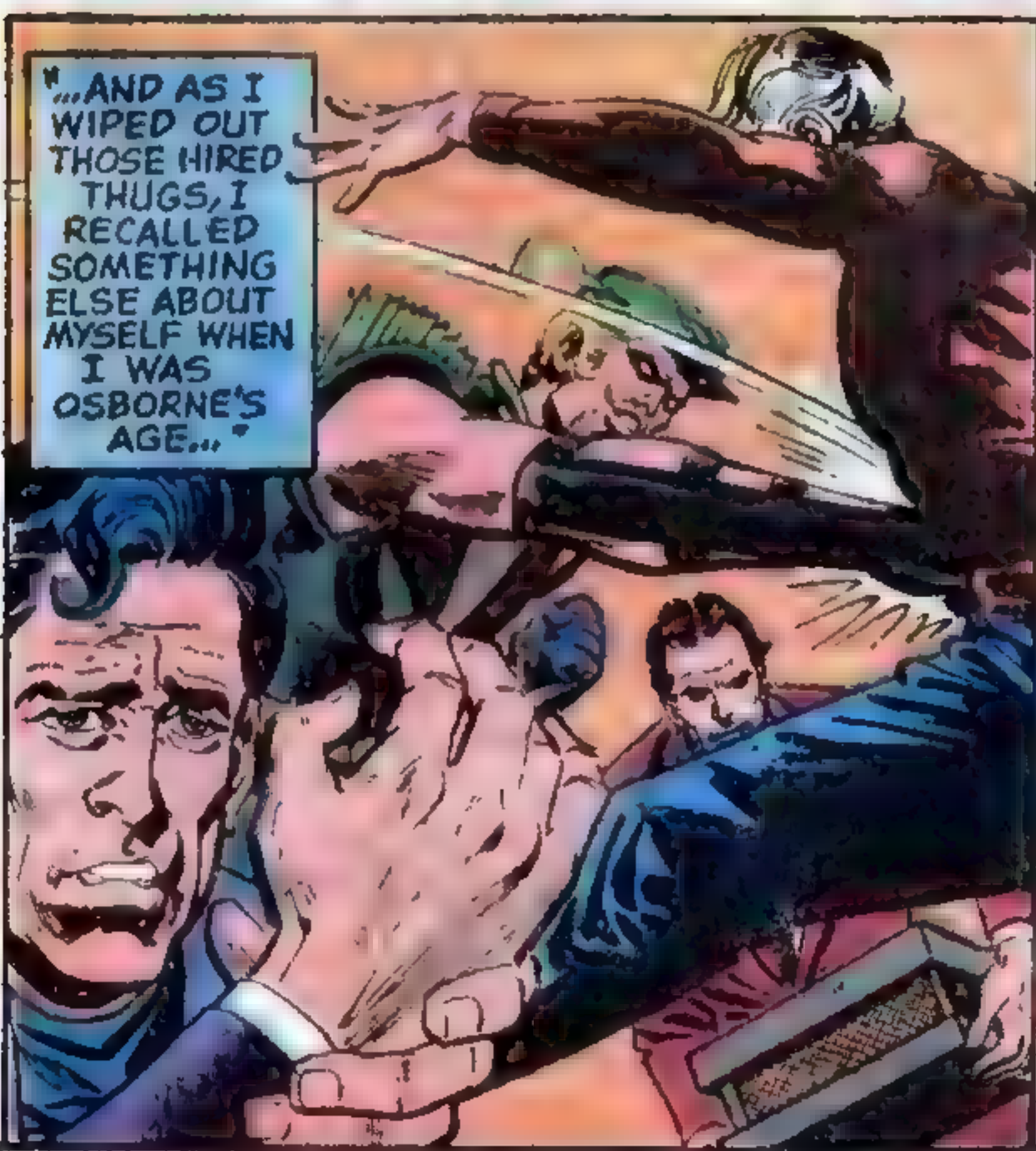
"I REMEMBERED THAT I'D BEEN A LOT LIKE OSBORNE WHEN I INHERITED MY FATHER'S ESTATE..."



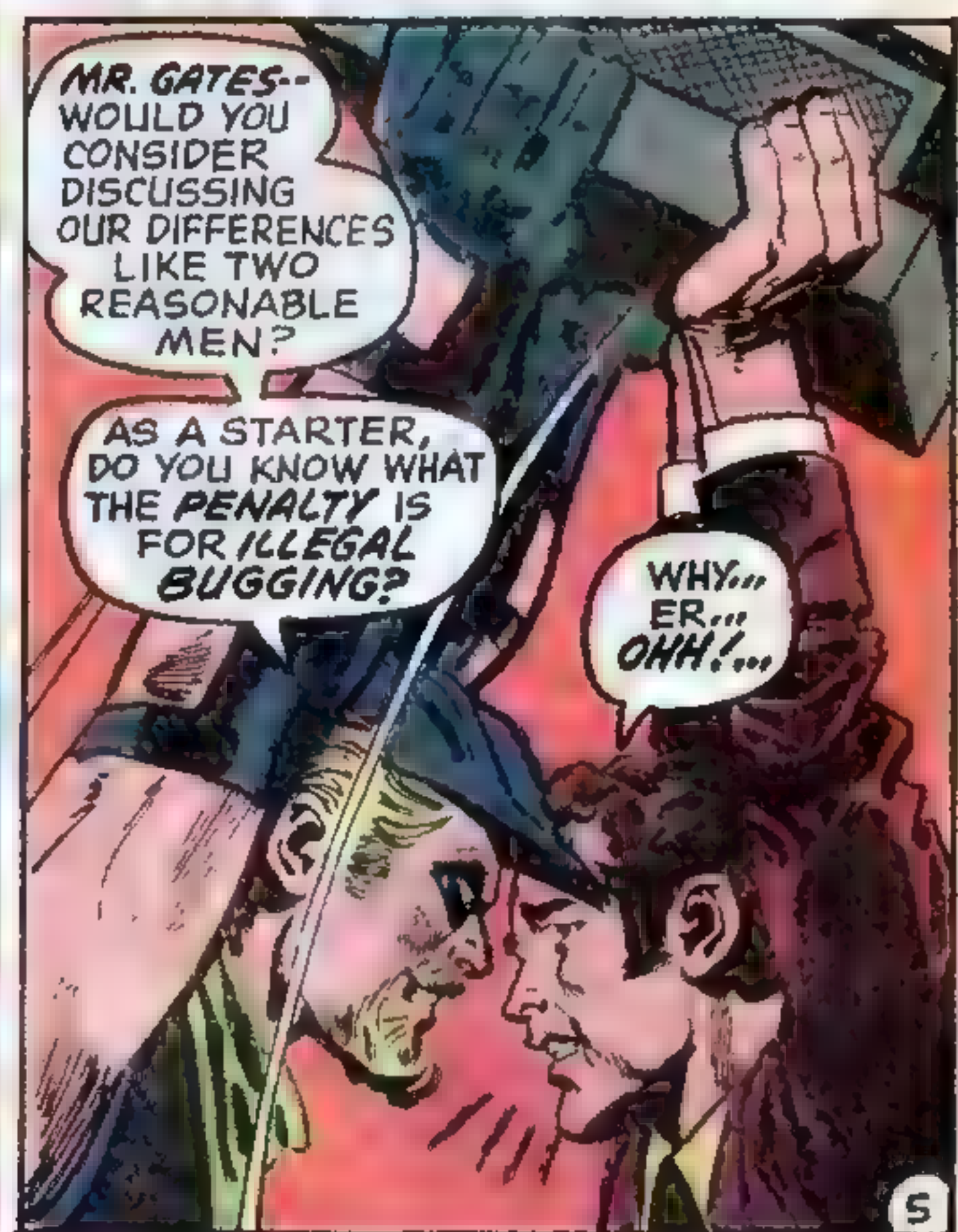
"...AND THAT A PUNK A LOT LIKE GATES HAD STOLEN MY OWN FORTUNE AND BROKEN MY IDEALISTIC DREAMS..."



"...BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE A COSTUMED DO-GOODER LIKE A GREEN ARROW TO MAKE SURE I DIDN'T MESS UP..."



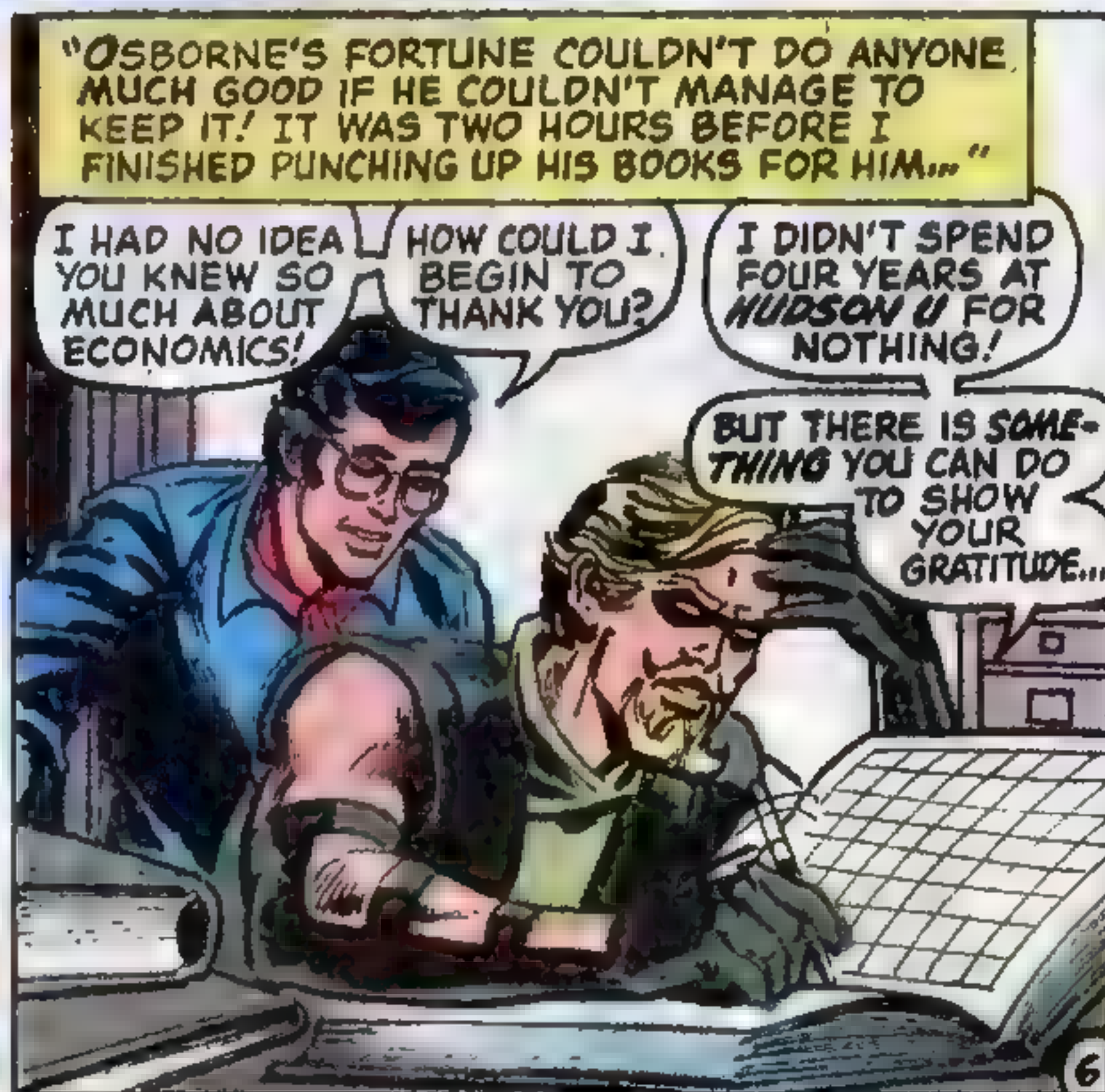
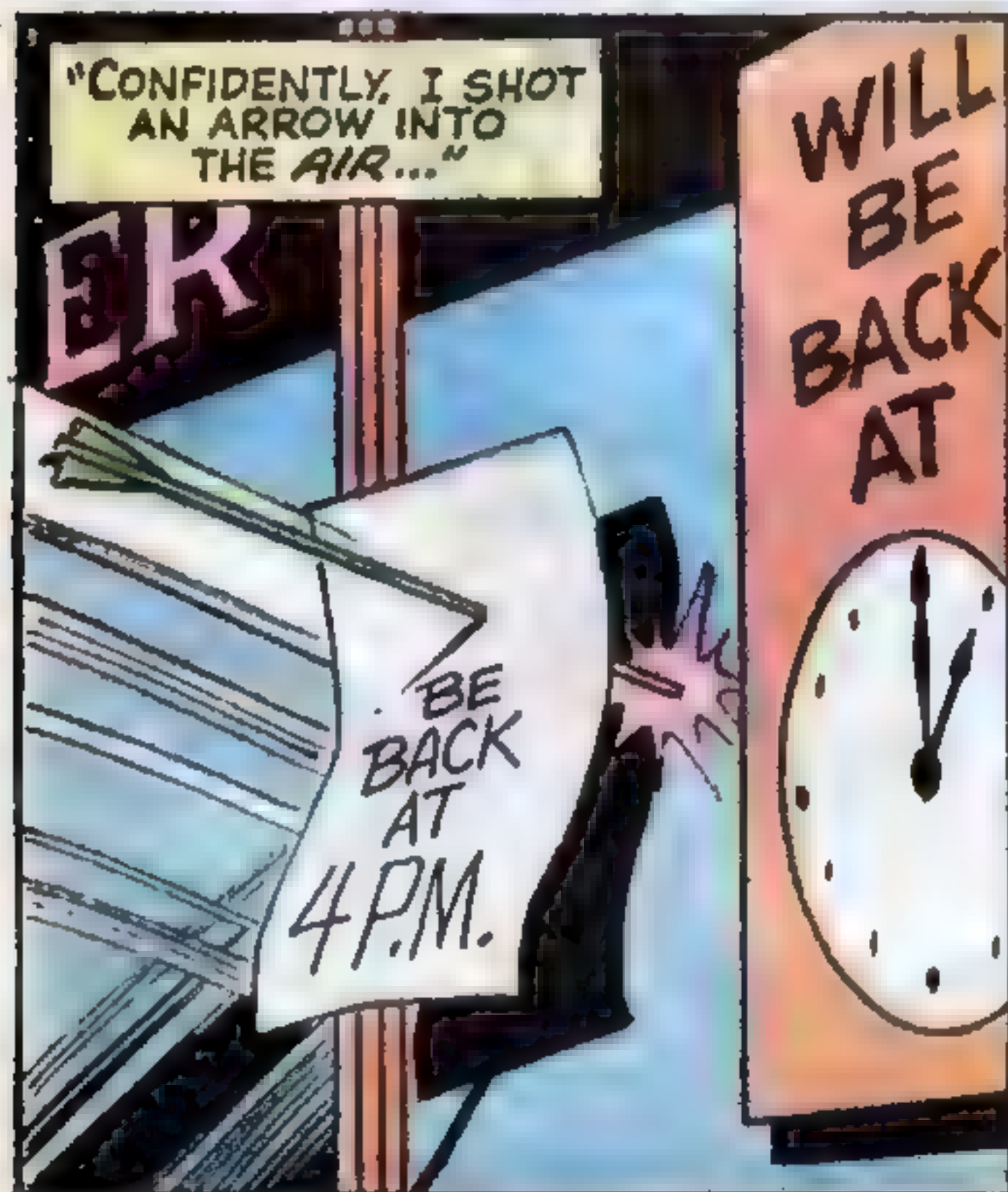
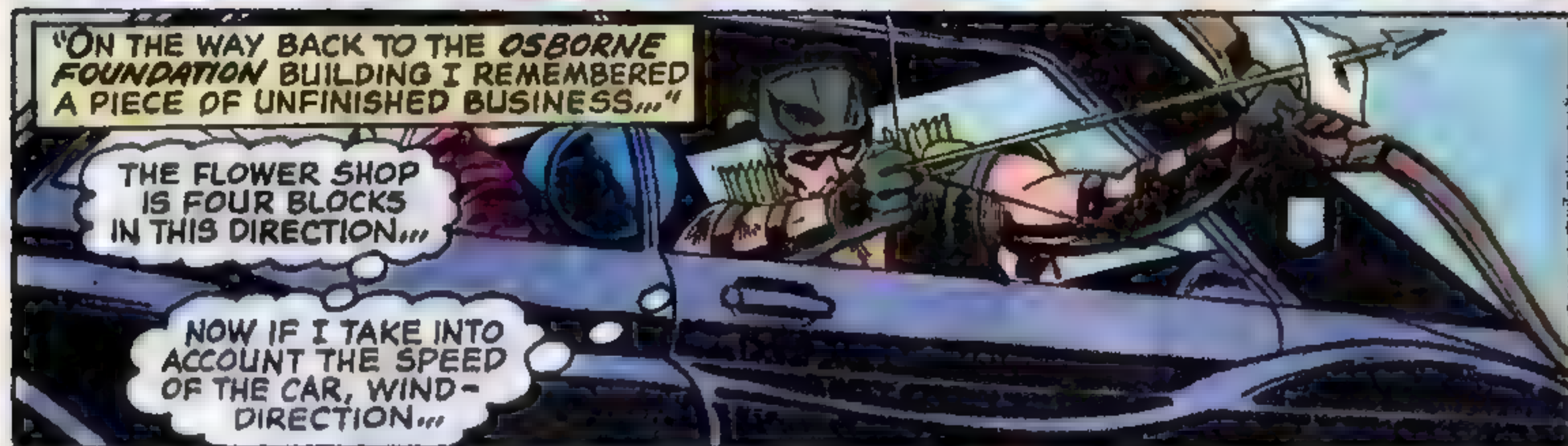
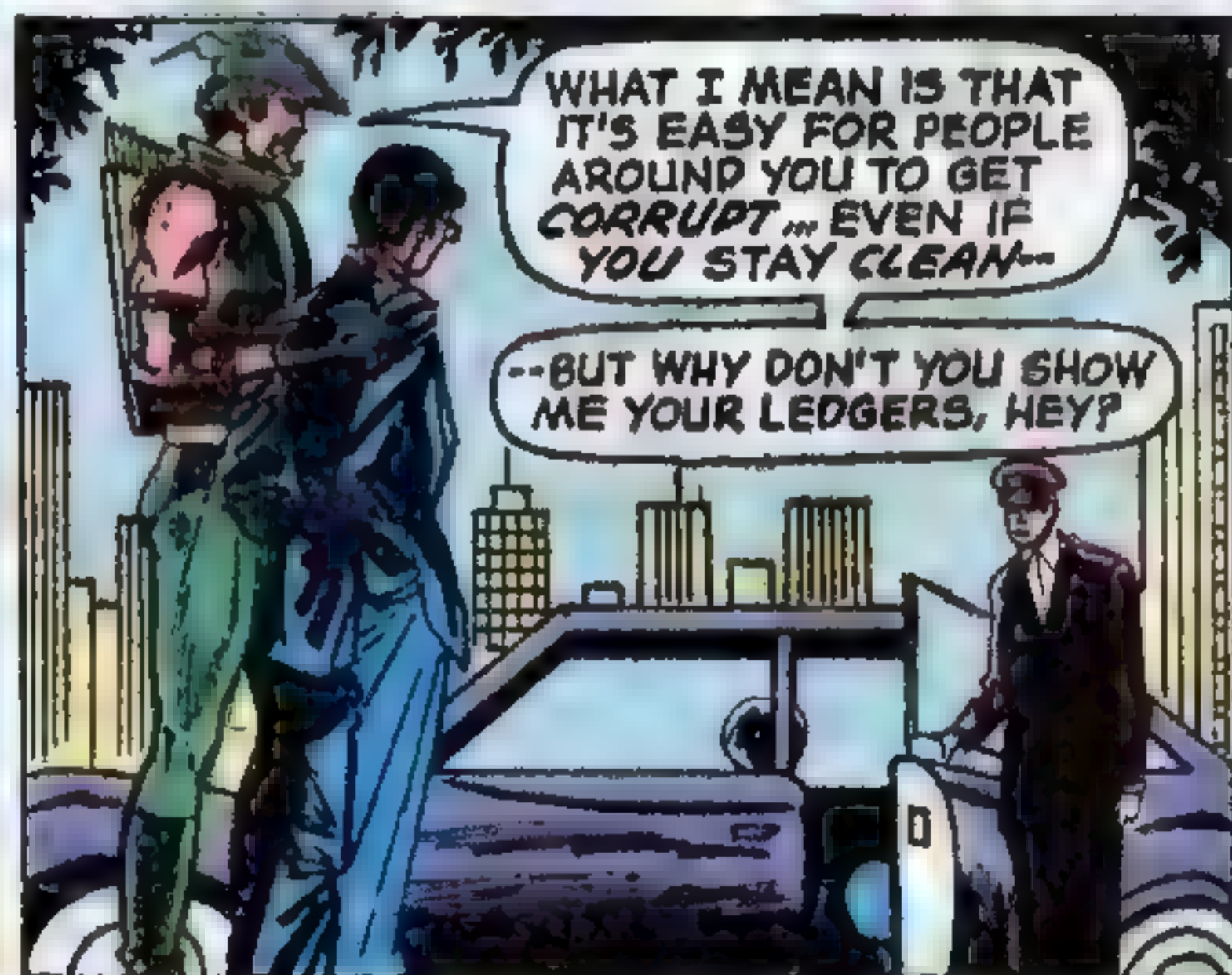
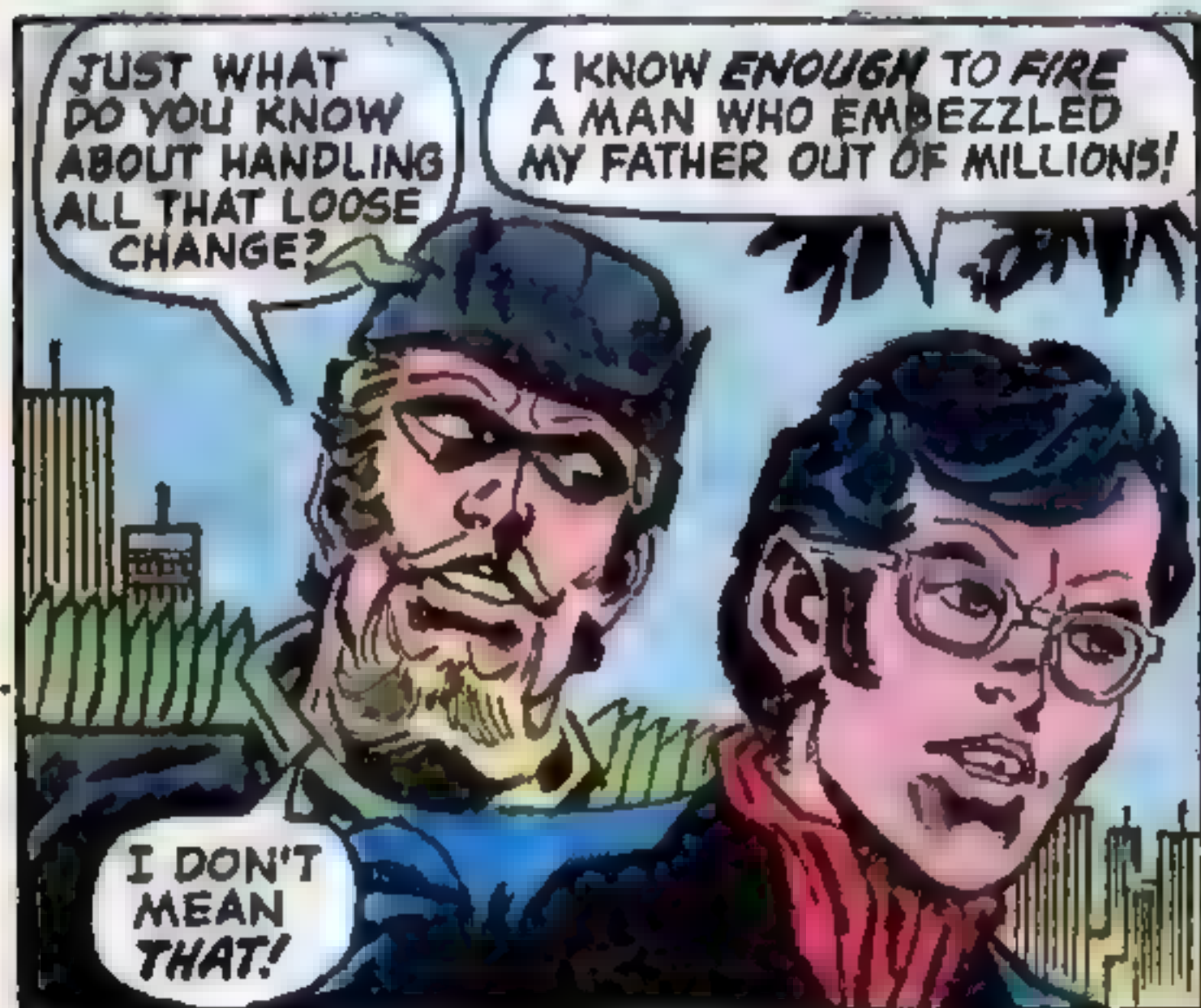
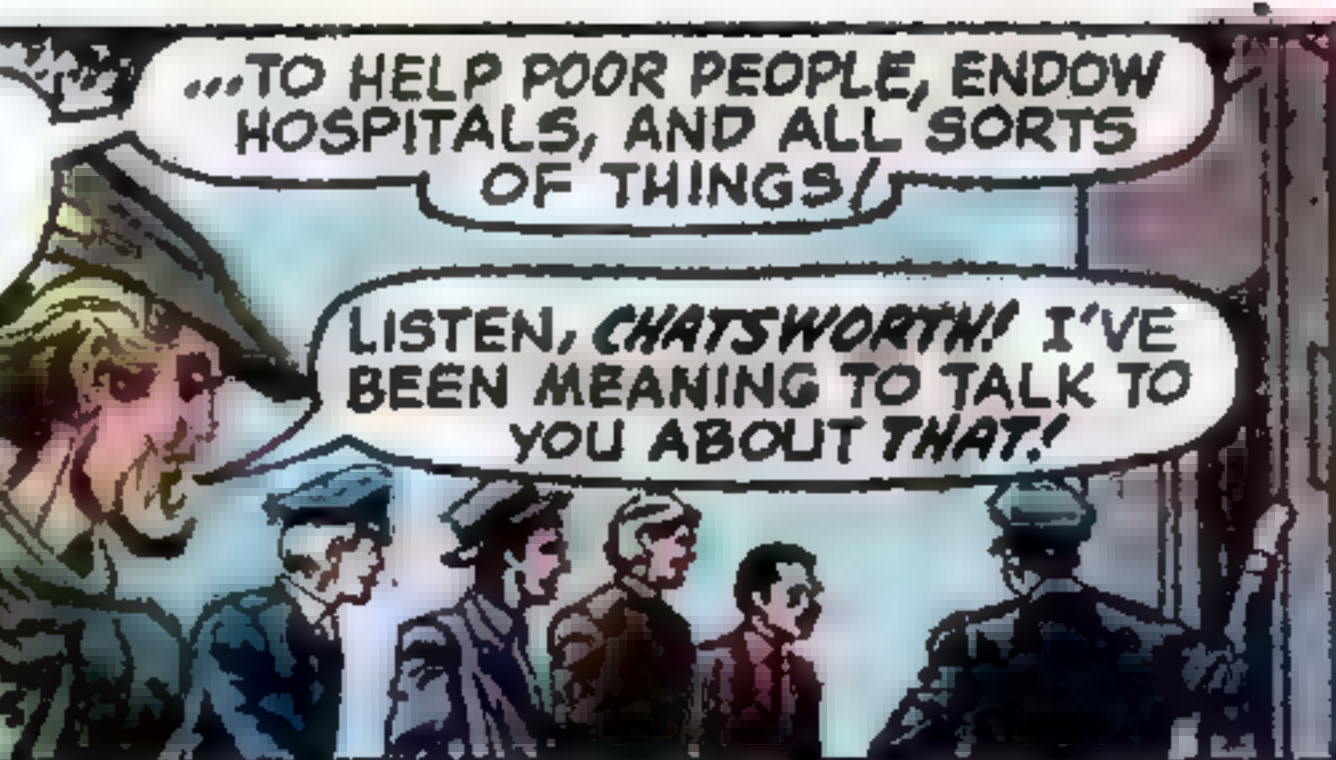
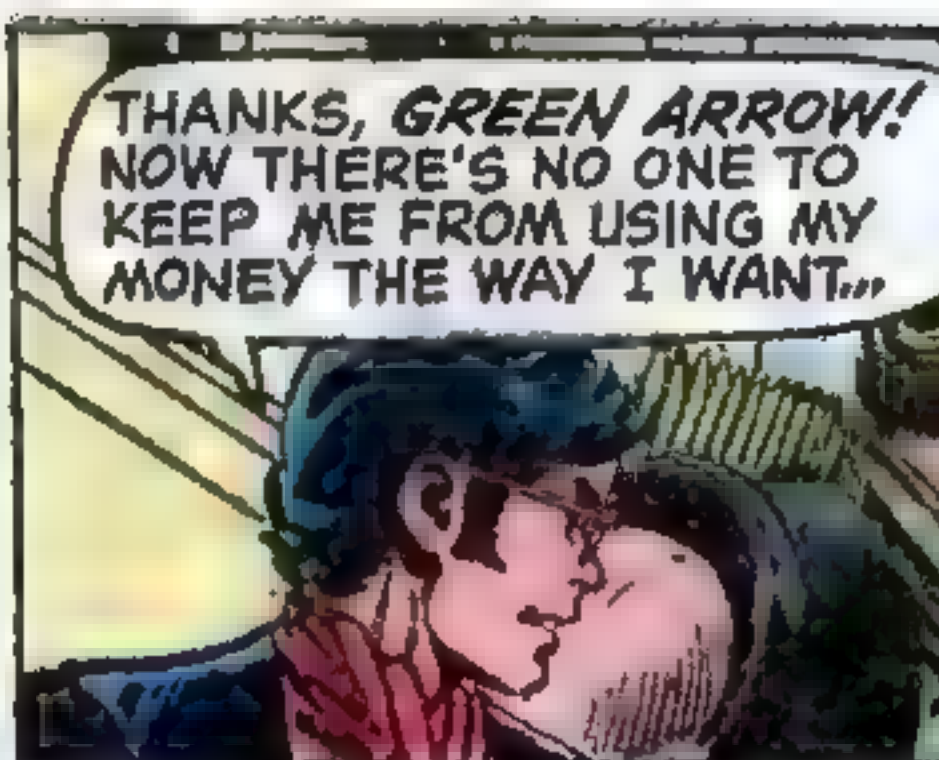
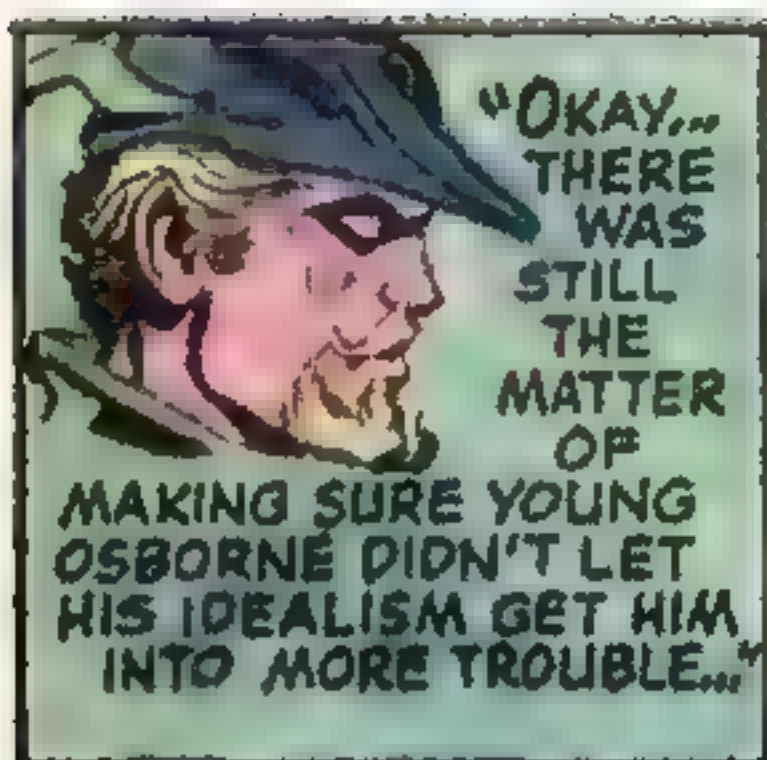
"...AND AS I WIPED OUT THOSE HIRED THUGS, I RECALLED SOMETHING ELSE ABOUT MYSELF WHEN I WAS OSBORNE'S AGE..."

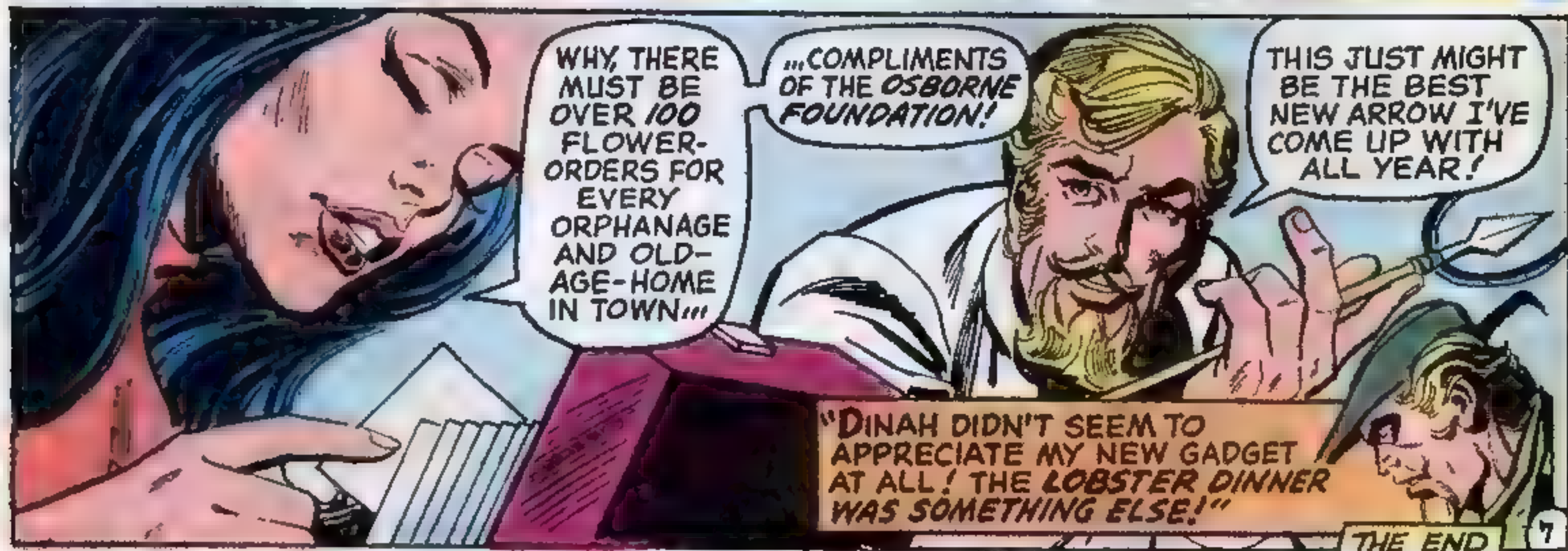
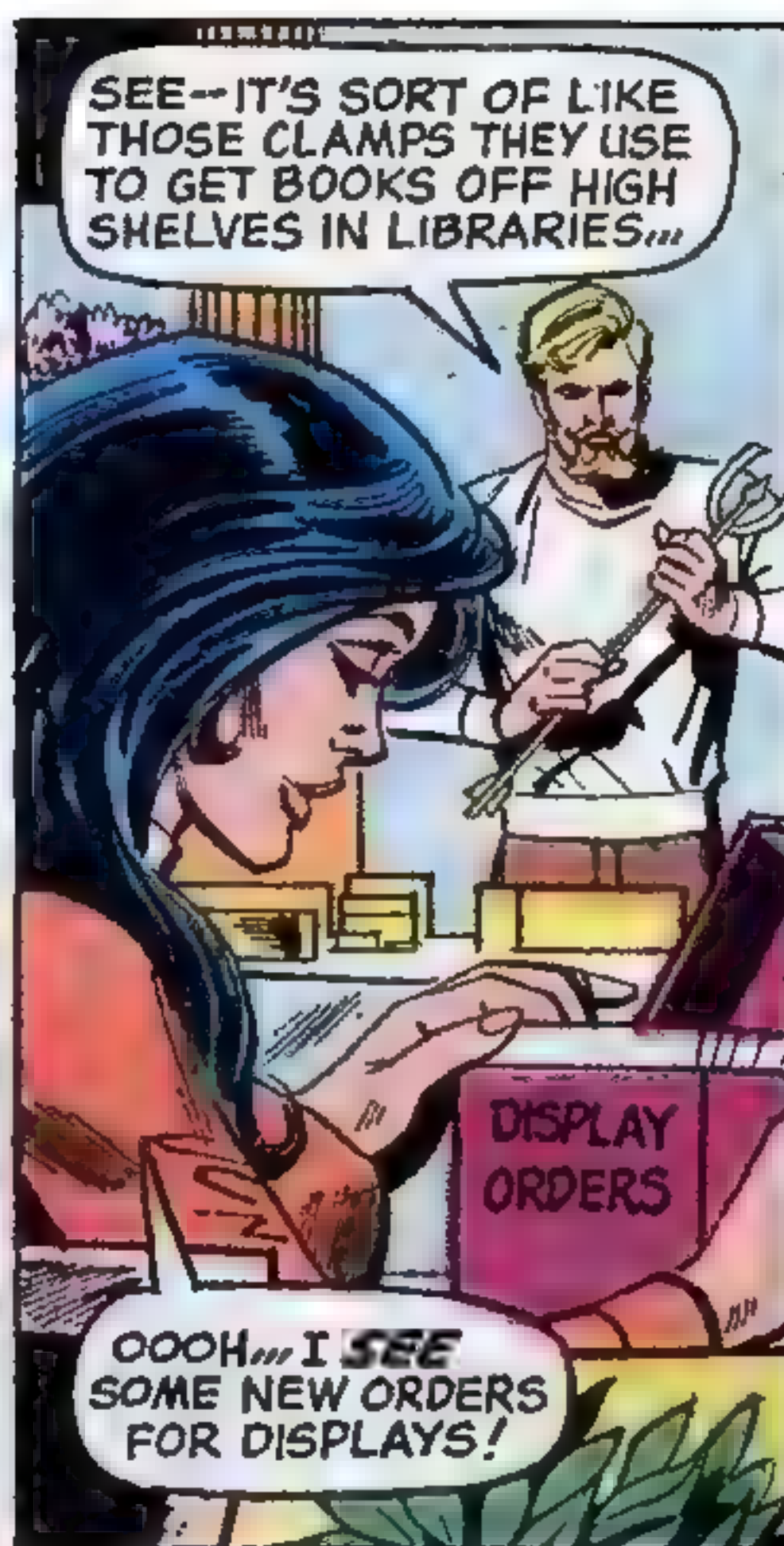
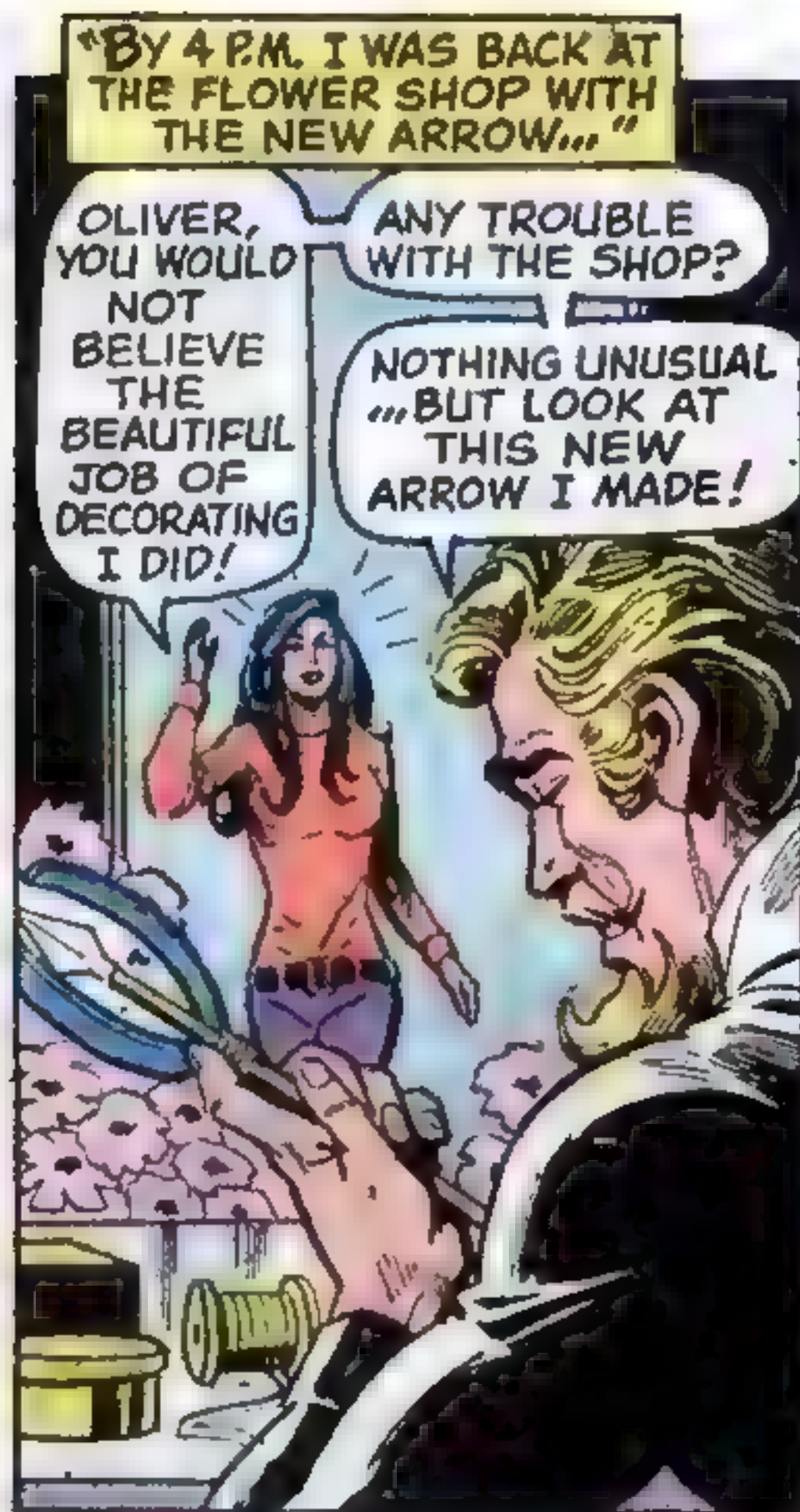


MR. GATES-- WOULD YOU CONSIDER DISCUSSING OUR DIFFERENCES LIKE TWO REASONABLE MEN?

AS A STARTER, DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE PENALTY IS FOR ILLEGAL BUGGING?

WHY... ER... OHH!...

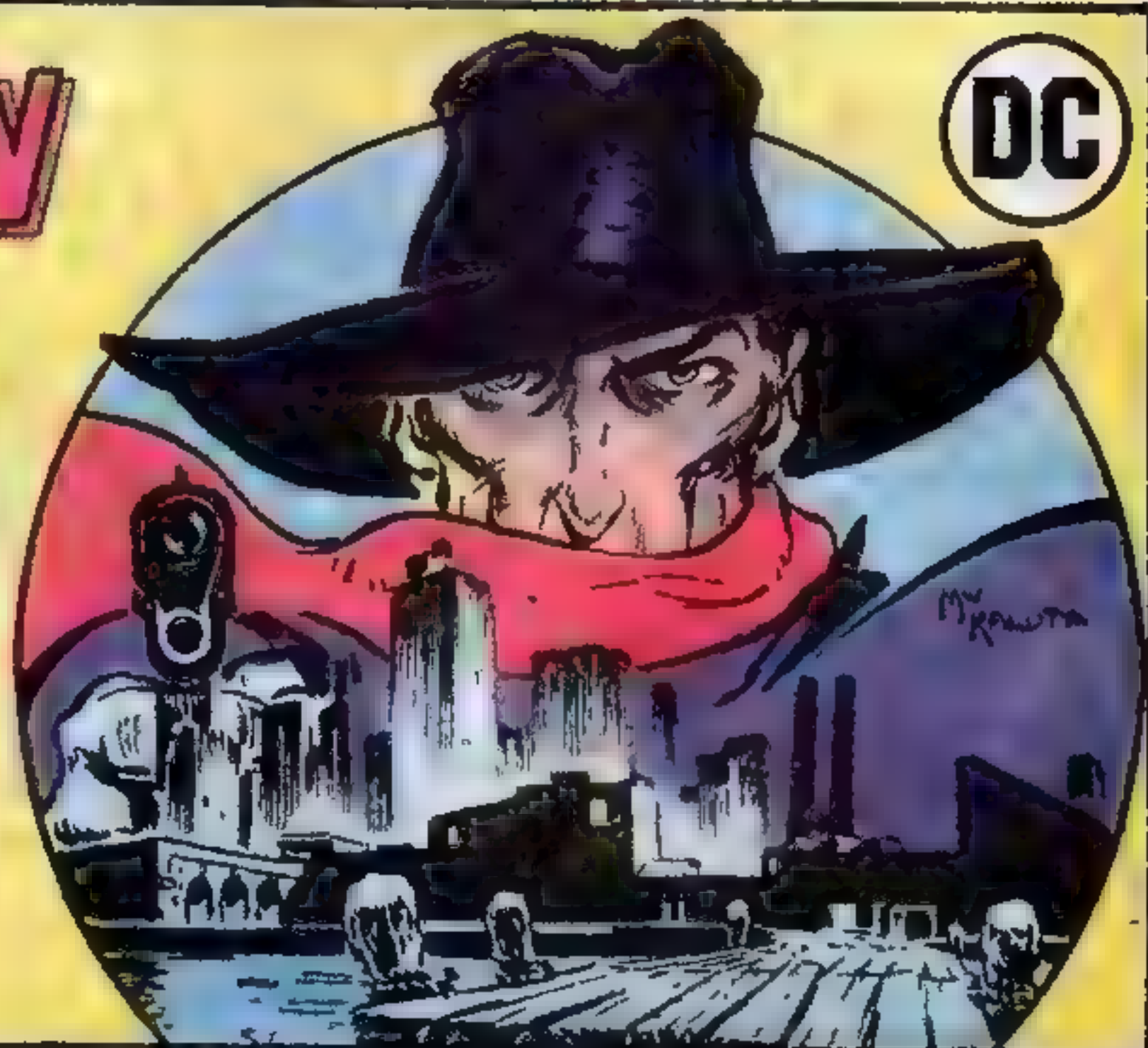




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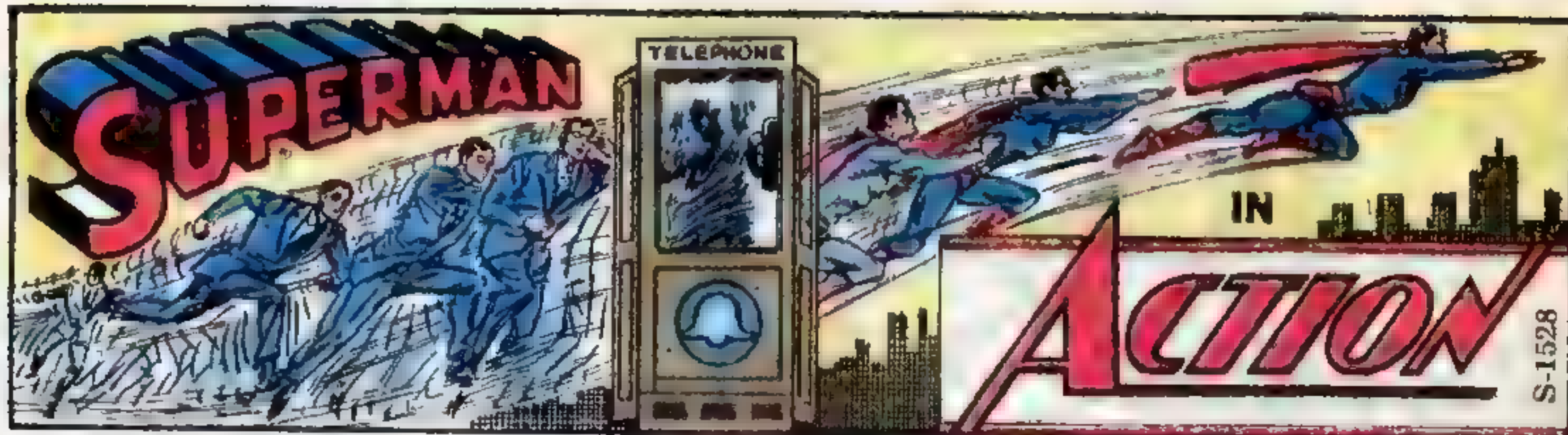
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Dear Editor:

Having been a fan of "The Fugitive" through the years of its run, I was delighted to see a take-off on it used as the basis for "The TV-Show That Menaced Metropolis" (Action #422). As he has done in other stories, Cary Bates successfully intertwined two different plots so that they worked into a mutual conclusion. The murderous plans of Mac Nelson worked well with the strange malady of Woody Nescott, and the conclusion was satisfactory for all concerned (except, perhaps the neutralized Mr. Nelson).

The Human Target's origin bears a striking resemblance to that of *The Batman*. Hopefully, however, Chris Chance's final encounter with Dancer will not result in the latter being hit by a truck the way Joe Chill was!

Bob Rozakis, Elmont, N.Y.

(Well, by now you know Dancer was not hit by a truck—but then, neither was Joe Chill! He was shot by his own gang—when they found out he was responsible for The Batman. The guy who had hired Chill to kill Thomas Wayne—Lew Moxon—was the one hit by a truck. But why are we talking about The Batman in Action Comics?—E.N.B.)



Dear Editor:

I anxiously await each and every issue of Action . . . and #422 was no exception. But this time I was met at the mailbox by a big disappointment.

"The TV-Show That Menaced Metropolis" was one of the worst stories that Cary Bates has ever written. The title, which had nothing to do with the plot, was just the beginning of the issue's downfall. The affliction that would "require an entire new textbook" and the mysterious killer that lurked "amid the frenzy of the rush-hour crowd" also added to the story's failure.

The artwork was up to its usual high standards except for one thing. The "blob" brought back memories of a certain creature that menaced Metropolis not too long ago. Maybe Curt Swan can draw a different monster when another story (hopefully not in the near future) calls for one.

Adding to my disappointment was *The Human Target*. I never really liked Mr. Chance and I suppose I never will.

One last question. Why was the "greatest hero of them all" only shown in 29 out of 77 panels (including his secret identity)?

Scott Hughes, Clovis, N.M.

(Because that's the way the story-line developed. You're the only one who complained on this point, so we'd say it worked.—E.N.B.)

Dear Editor:

What does it take to stop him? Cary Bates is one of the finest writers in the profession today, and "The TV-Show That Menaced Metropolis" didn't hurt his reputation one bit!

The cover was beautiful, an insight of the story to come. Woody Nescott was portrayed well and you can almost sympathize with him and his belief in "The Runaway."

Superman was terrific, as usual. The subway save was unique. You'd normally expect the *Man of Steel* to place his back to the train and let it crumple up against his super-body. Not so, as Supes startled the public with his last-second save with one foot. Incredible!

The epilogue was the highlight of the story! It seemed to turn out well for everyone except avaricious Mac Nelson. It was truly a great piece of work.

Lastly, I'd like to thank Cary Bates for shucking my usual nasty disposition long enough for me to write some compliments about Action #422.

Clinton E. Thomas, Oak Hill, W.Va.

(And you returned the compliment—because your letter certainly helped Cary's disposition!—E.N.B.)



Dear Editor:

I didn't think Cary Bates could top "Slave of Star Sapphire," but he did it in Action #422. The plot for the story was so well put together that it generated a kind of excitement that should grace every Bates story.

The plight of Woodrow Nescott, the mention of *Star Trek* and the villain himself were just beautiful.

I really can't go on because I'm at a loss for words. Maybe the perfect crime can't be produced, but the perfect comic story can. Keep it up, Cary!!!

The *Action-Plus* segment was just that this issue. It was *The Human Target* (action) and his origin (the plus). It was sheer dynamite. All that can be further said is that this is one of the best new series around today.

This one issue was the ultimate package of what all comics should be like. Thank you!

Joe Peluso, Brooklyn, N.Y.

(For a guy who's at a loss for words, you said plenty, Joe—and said it beautifully!—E.N.B.)



How about the rest of you? What do you have to say about this issue? Say it—and send it to SUPERMAN IN ACTION, National Periodical Publications, 909 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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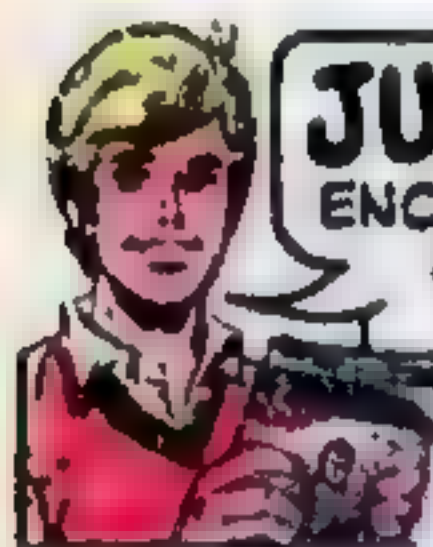
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- 79 ☐ SWORD OF SORCERY

SCIENCE FICTION

- 80 ☐ FROM BEYOND THE
UNKNOWN
- 81 ☐ STRANGE ADVENTURES

IT STARTED AS A FAVOR FOR A FRIEND-- FOR LUIGI, MY LANDLORD, WHOSE COUSIN, ANTONIO, HAD WAGERED HIS HALF-SHARE OF A CIRCUS THAT HE COULD WALK A TIGHTROPE ACROSS NIAGARA FALLS...

EASILY, LUIGI CONVINCED ME TO IMPERSONATE HIS COUSIN--

--BUT CONVINCING ANTONIO WAS ANOTHER THING ENTIRELY!

LUIGI TUCKED THE REAL ANTONIO SAFELY AWAY-- AS I BECAME A REASONABLE FACSIMILE...

NOW I WAS THE WOULD-BE KILLER'S INTENDED VICTIM--

BUT SURVIVING THAT KIND OF "ACCIDENT" IS WHAT I DO FOR A LIVING!

...ONLY SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO MAKE SURE HE DIDN'T LIVE THAT LONG!

THAT TOOK DECEPTION-- AND A NUMBING NERVE PINCH!

--AND IT DID NOT TAKE HIM VERY LONG TO STRIKE!

WITHIN SECONDS, I'D REGAINED MY FEET-- THEN PURSUED MY UNKNOWN ATTACKER ACROSS THE SILENT CIRCUS GROUNDS-- AROUND A BLIND CORNER--

--AND RAN STRAIGHT INTO THE TUNNEL-LIKE MUZZLE OF AN ANGRY GUN!

SOME DAYS, IT JUST DOESN'T PAY TO GET OUT OF BED!

HOW DARE YOU REPLACE THE GREAT ANTONIO? I COULD KILL YOU FOR THAT!

NO, ANTONIO-- YOU WIN!

SEE? I'M TAKING OFF MY DISGUISE...

--TO REVEAL...

CHRISTOPHER CHANCE--

THE HUMAN TARGET

"The SHORT-WALK-TO-DISASTER CONTRACT!"

CLAUSE #2 "THE SHORTEST DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO POINTS..."

LEN WEIN
WRITER--
DICK GIORDANO
ARTIST--
JULIUS SCHWARTZ
EDITOR--

A MAGICIAN'S GREATEST ASSET IS HIS ABILITY TO MISDIRECT THE ATTENTION OF HIS AUDIENCE. IT'S A TALENT I'VE MADE USE OF, TOO.

...THIS WAS ONE OF THOSE TIMES!

BAD MOVE, ANTONIO! YOU SHOULD NEVER GET DISTRACTED WHILE YOU'RE HOLDING A GUN!

HUH?

DON'T KNOW HOW HE GOT AWAY FROM LUIGI-- BUT ANTONIO'S NOT THE GUY I JUST CHASED ACROSS THE CAMP!

HE'S NOT WINDED-- NOT EVEN SWEATING!

THWAK

NO... MY REAL ATTACKER MUST HAVE RUN PAST ANTONIO-- JUST BEFORE I RAN INTO HIM!

I'D HAVE CAUGHT THE KILLER IF THIS FOOL HAD LISTENED TO REASON--

--WHICH IS EXACTLY WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO NOW!

OKAY, ANTONIO--THE WAR IS OVER! NOW YOU'LL HEAR ME OUT--

--OR I'LL FIX IT SO YOU CAN'T WALK ACROSS THE STREET, LET ALONE NIAGARA!

ALL RIGHT-- ALL RIGHT! TALK--I'LL LISTEN!

LISTEN--AND THINK! WHAT I'M DOING IS FOR YOUR BENEFIT!

ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU STAY OUT OF SIGHT A FEW DAYS--LET ME FLUSH OUT YOUR ASSASSIN--

-- THEN YOU CAN WALK A TIGHTROPE TO THE MOON FOR ALL I CARE!

YOU ARE RIGHT, MR. CHANCE-- FORGIVE ME! AT TIMES, I STUMBLE OVER MY EGO!

BUT TELL ME--HOW DOES AN AMATEUR LIKE YOURSELF EXPECT TO WALK THE NIAGARA-- WITHOUT FALLING TO YOUR DEATH?

ANTONIO, MY FRIEND-- THAT'S THE ONE PART I'M NOT CONCERNED ABOUT!

YOU JUST LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!

NIAGARA FALLS: EACH MINUTE, 6,000,000 GALLONS OF CHURNING WATER PLUNGE 167 FEET INTO THE NIAGARA RIVER THEN FLOW PEACEFULLY DOWN TO BUFFALO, NEW YORK...

THE DAY WAS CLOUDY--WITH A HINT OF WIND IN THE AIR. THE NEWS-MEDIA HAD TURNED OUT FULL FORCE TO WATCH ME RISK MY NECK...

ANTONIO HAD GOTTEN THE PUBLICITY HE SOUGHT...

SHE'S ALL CHECKED OUT, MR. ANTONIO--RIG IS SET TO GO!

SO ANY TIME YOU'RE READY--?

THE GREAT ANTONIO IS ALWAYS READY, MY MAN!

RIGHT! WELL, GOOD LUCK TO YA NOW!

DON'T GET YOUR FEET WET!

ANTONIO'S PARTNER, MARTIN, HASN'T SHOWN--AND FOR AN EVENT LIKE THIS? HMM--THAT NARROWS DOWN THE WHO PART OF THIS CAPER--

ONLY QUESTION NOW IS--HOW?

THERE--ER--ANTONIO! YOUR COSTUME, SHE IS ALL SET!

BONA FORTUNA, MY COUSIN!

GRAZIE, LUIGI--I WILL SEE YOU SOON--

I BOWED ONCE OR TWICE TO THE ASSEMBLED THROG--THEN CLIMBED TO THE PLATFORM--TOOK MY BALANCING-POLE IN HAND--AND TOOK MY FIRST STEP...

NOW THERE WAS NO TURNING BACK!

THE TUMULTUOUS ROAR OF THE GREAT FALLS BLENDED WITH THE GROWLING WHIRR OF THE NEWS-COPTER THAT HOYERED ABOVE ME AS I MOVED SLOWLY, CAUTIOUSLY, ACROSS THE MISTY EXPANSE OF SPACE...

A SUDDEN, UNEXPECTED GUST OF WIND NEARLY HURLED ME FROM THE CABLE --

--AND MY MUSCLES SCREAMED AS I STRUGGLED TO REGAIN MY FOOTING...

THEN, MY BALANCE RECAPTURED, I WALKED ON...

--AND I COULD ALMOST HEAR THE APPRECIATIVE MURMUR OF THE MILLING CROWD BELOW...

IT HAPPENED JUST ABOUT WHERE I HAD FIGURED IT WOULD--

IT CAME WITH THE PAINFUL SOUND OF A RETAINING WIRE SNAPPING--

--AND, AS ALL THINGS *MUST* IN SUCH A CASE...

--AS I REACHED THE HALFWAY POINT IN MY FAR-FROM-CASUAL STROLL..

--WITH THE SUDDEN SENSE OF WEIGHTLESSNESS AS THE CABLE THAT SUPPORTED ME GREW SLACK--

--I FELL--

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

Super

BODYBUILDING COURSE —

INTRODUCING

THE BODYBUILDING SYSTEM THAT GUARANTEES —
**YOU'LL PUT ON INCHES OF POWERFUL
MUSCLES ON YOUR BODY!**

At last, NEW bodybuilding secrets are now available for your use. Finally, after years of experimenting we have come up with the fastest muscle building system in the world. Our course really works — thousands have taken our course and have obtained fantastic results. Right in the privacy of your own bedroom, you can completely transform your body.

SEE YOUR MUSCLES GROW DAY BY DAY!

You can have POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST . . . not by years and years of hard work . . . but by simply following our fascinating system . . . a system that works so fast you can see results from day to day! Isn't that the kind of course you want? We absolutely guarantee results.

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J. Johnson

"In just 3 weeks I have gained 1½" on my arms and 4" on my chest. I have also lost 4" off my waist. Your course is just great!"

D. Roberts

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P. Williams

B. Abbott

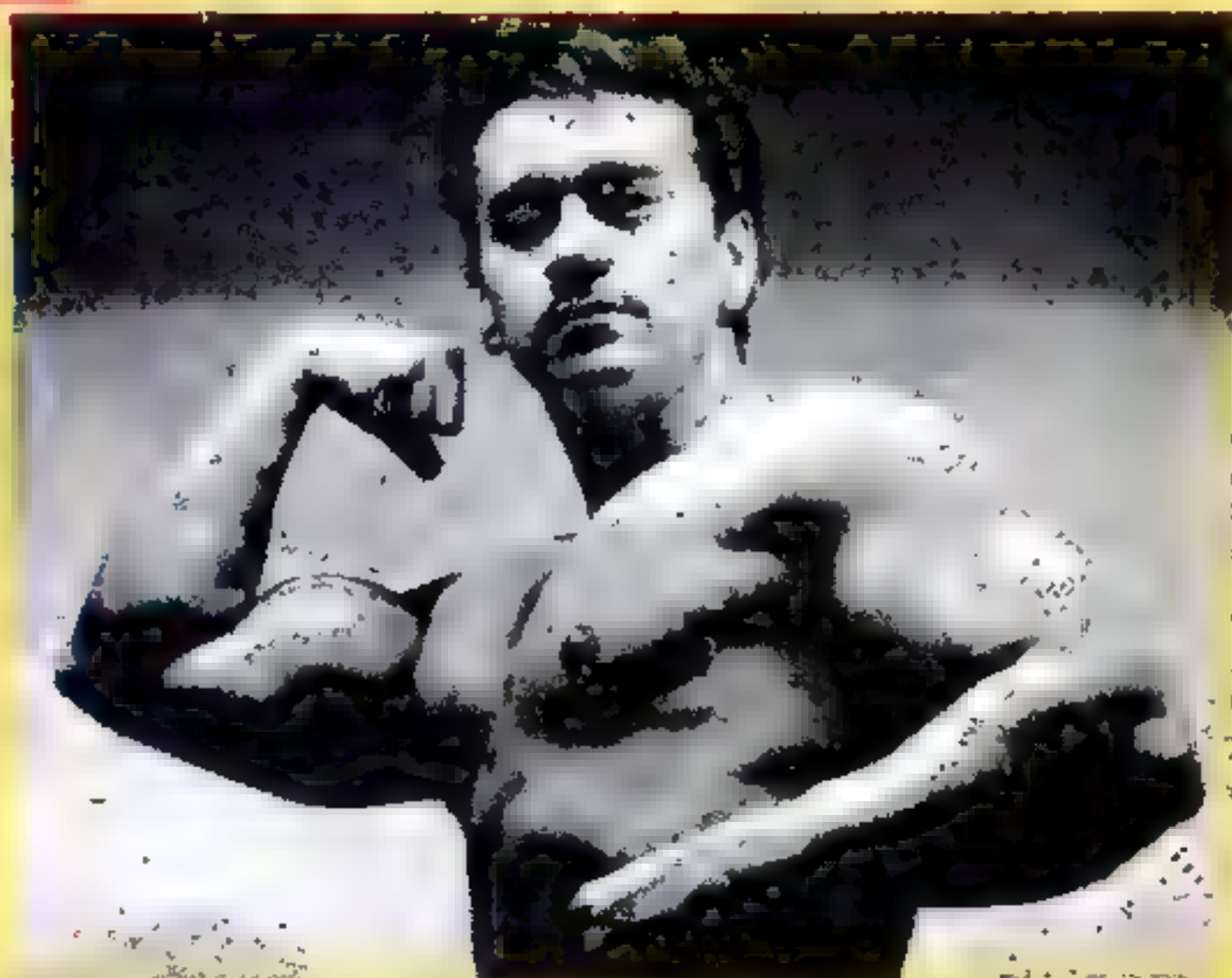


"I have gained 20 pounds in 3 weeks and have gained 12" on my arms and chest. I have also lost 12" off my waist. I am a new man. Thank you for what you have done for me!"

B. Daniels

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M. Robinson



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- ★ **FEEL 100% BETTER** — You can't help but feel great once you own a muscular body.

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FREE!



Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MAIL TODAY

--FELL
ABOUT
THREE
FEET--



--THEN
HUNG
SUSPENDED,
DANGLING
LIKE A
PUPPET
IN
MID-AIR!--

THE CROWD WAS NO LONGER
MURMURING NOW; THEY WERE
GASPING, STUTTERING, TRYING
TO COMPREHEND WHAT
THEIR WIDENED EYES
TOLD THEM
THEY SAW--



--AND, IF THEY HAD TROUBLE
EXPLAINING ME FLOATING--

--THE SIGHT OF ME
FLYING MUST HAVE
DRIVEN THEM ALL
STRAIGHT UP THE FALLS!



WELL, MAYBE NOT
ALL--FOR MY
FLIGHT SENT ONE
MAN SCURRYING
FOR COVER--

--JUST LIKE
THE RAT
HE WAS!

NO-
NO-
IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE!



MORE THAN
POSSIBLE,
FRIEND-- IF
YOU MUST
KNOW!

BY THE
WAY, YOU
CAN STOP
RUNNING
NOW!

THE ONLY
PLACE YOU'RE
GOING IS--





--DOWN--
AND OUT!

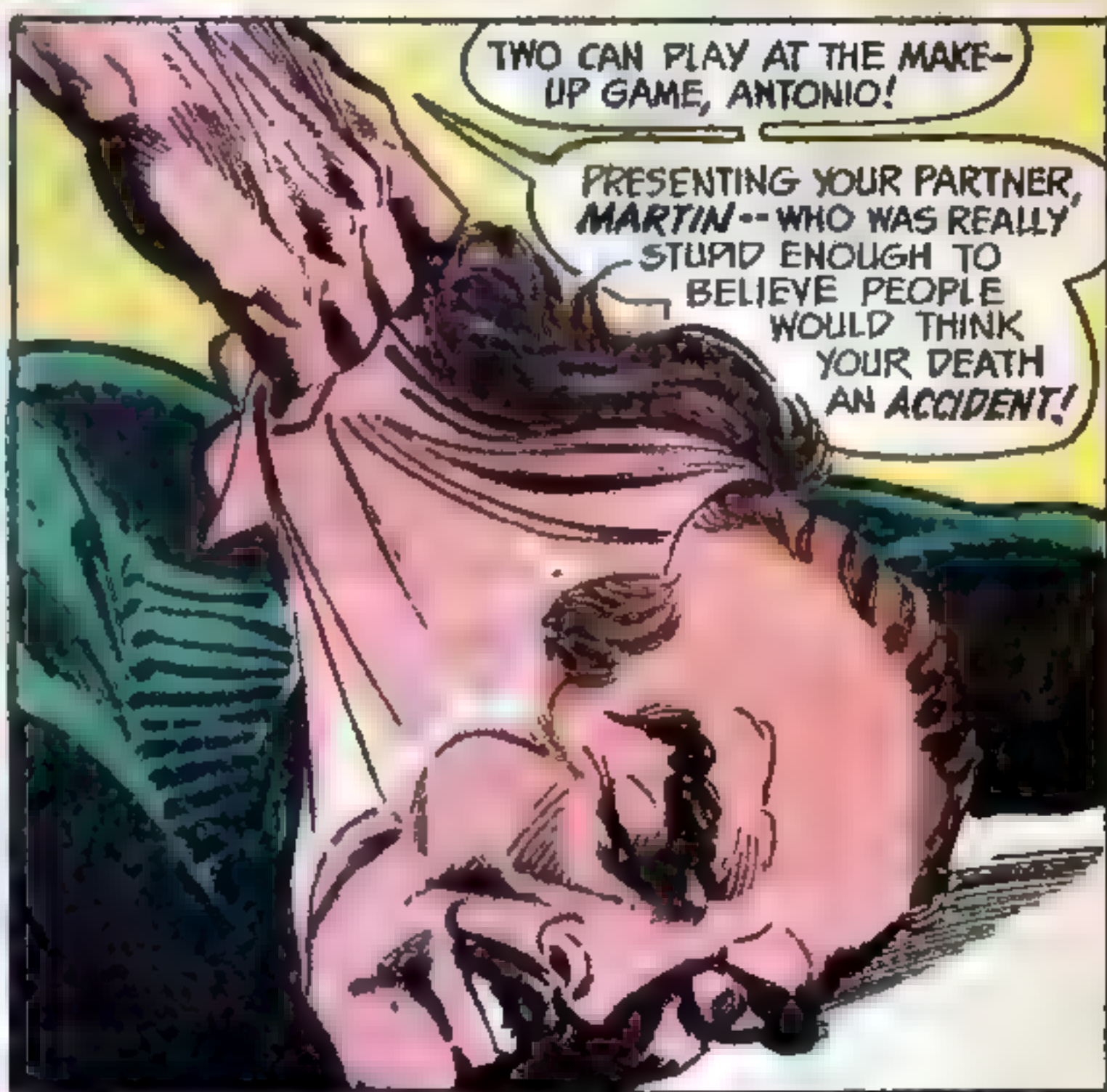
EVERYONE ELSE
WAS NOT FAR
BEHIND ME...



IT'S ALL OVER,
ANTONIO!

THIS
CHARACTER
WILL BE OUT
OF THE MURDER
RACKET FOR
A VERY LONG
TIME!

BUT WHO IS
HE? WHY DID
HE WANT TO
KILL ME?



TWO CAN PLAY AT THE MAKE-
UP GAME, ANTONIO!

PRESENTING YOUR PARTNER,
MARTIN--WHO WAS REALLY
STUPID ENOUGH TO
BELIEVE PEOPLE
WOULD THINK
YOUR DEATH
AN ACCIDENT!



YES, THE "ACCIDENT"! IN
HEAVEN'S NAME,
MAN--

--HOW DID
YOU ACCOMPLISH
THAT?



"IT WAS ALL DONE WITH
WIRES, ANTONIO--ATTACHED
TO A THEATRICAL FLYING-
HARNES I WORE UNDER
MY COSTUME..."



"THE WIRES WERE
CONTROLLED FROM
THAT HELICOPTER
THAT SEEMED TO BE
FILMING ME WHILE I
MADE THE WALK..."

"THERE
WAS
ENOUGH
LEEWAY
FOR ME
TO
CONTROL
MY OWN
MOTIONS--
BUT NOT
THE
SLIGHTEST
POSSIBILITY
OF MY
FALLING..."



I BANKED ON THE FACT **MARTIN**
WOULD TRY TO MAKE IT LOOK
LIKE AN ACCIDENT--AND TAMPER
WITH THE CABLE! IF HE'D
DECIDED TO **SHOOT** ME
INSTEAD--

WELL, ANTONIO--I
SUPPOSE YOU WOULD
HAVE HAD TO **FINISH**
THE WALK
YOURSELF!

The End

NEXT ISSUE ON SALE DURING THE LAST WEEK IN JUNE

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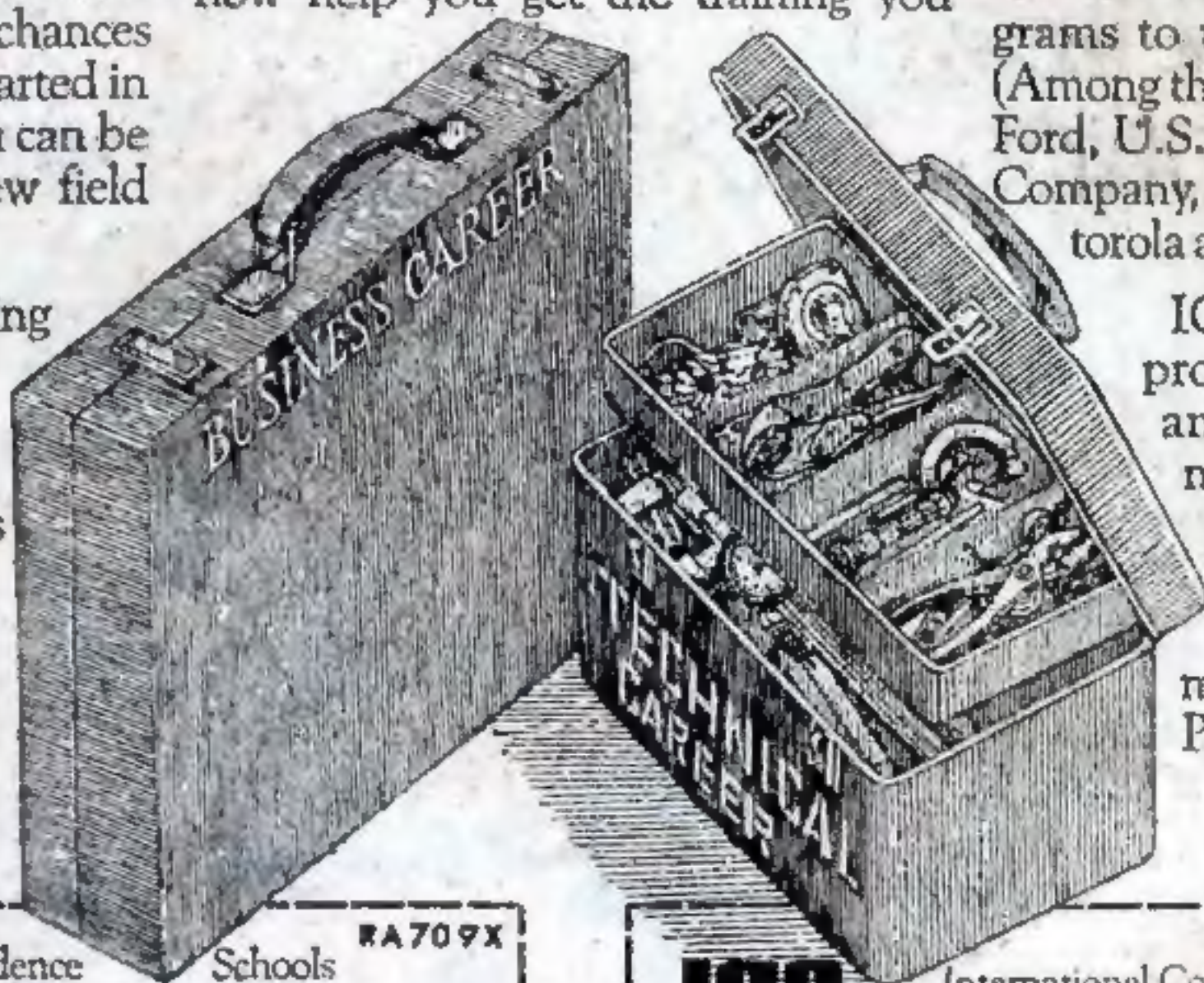
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|--|--|--|
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| ☐ Auto Body | ☐ Diesel, Gas Mechanic | ☐ Surveying & Mapping |
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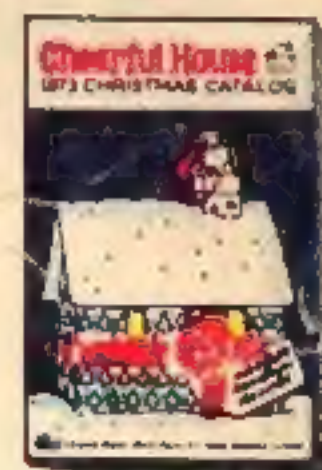
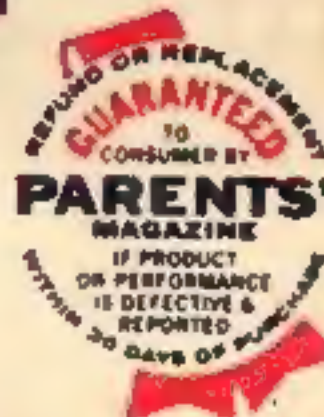
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